THE MOST WONDERFUL EGG IN THE WORLD

The Most Wonderful Egg in the World by Helme Heine (Antheneum)
Theme: Self-Esteem
Level: Grades K-1
Length 6 minutes, animated

Summary

THE MOST WONDERFUL EGG IN THE WORLD, the film, is true to the book, The Most Wonderful Egg in the World, by Helme Heine. The story concerns three hens who are quarreling because each feels that she is more beautiful than the other two. When they cannot solve their problem, they approach the king and ask him to determine which of them is the most beautiful.

The king responds by saying that it is what they do, not how they look. He says that he will make the hen who lays the most perfect egg, the princess.

The three hens each lay unique eggs, which are perfect in their own ways. The story ends with the king deciding to make each a princess, and all live happily ever after as friends.

Objectives

• Children will learn about values
• Children will explore problem-solving techniques
• Children will learn about the importance of self-esteem

Before Viewing Activities

Share the book The Most Wonderful Egg in the World with children.
Then ask:

Why are the hens quarreling in the beginning of the story?
What was so special about Dotty’s appearance? Stalky’s? Plumy’s?
Who do they go to for advice?

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After Viewing Activities

Supply art materials that children can use to create their own “perfect eggs”. (You might want to provide plastic eggs used to house panty hose for this project.) When children finish, have them share their creations with others in the group. As children discuss their eggs, emphasize the individual ways each child chose to create an egg represented his or her idea of perfection. Stress that this is another example of how we are all interesting and unique individuals.

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