

# Mommy Laid An Egg: Or, Where Do Babies Come From?

By Babette Cole

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**Mommy Laid An Egg: Or, Where Do Babies Come From?** By Babette Cole

In this hilarious twist on one of the most difficult discussions in a child's development, award winning author Babette Cole illustrates the one question all children are bound to ask: Where do babies come from? Mom explains that you can make babies out of gingerbread, grow them from seeds, or squeeze them out of tubes, while Dad says you can find babies under rocks. Amused by their parents' silly answers, the children decide to set the adults straight. In a series of zany diagrams, the children show the adults exactly where babies come from. The offbeat illustrations are accompanied by a text that is short, simple, and anything but predictable. This is a funny book that will delight, entertain, and educate the entire family.

Awards and honors for *Mommy Laid An Egg*:

LA Parent Book Award

Publishers Weekly, starred review

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## Mommy Laid An Egg: Or, Where Do Babies Come From? By Babette Cole Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Cole ( Supermoo ) unleashes her endearingly loony sense of humor on the subject of the birds and the bees, and the result is, as expected, hilarious. When a thoroughly befuddled set of '90s parents (he wears his gray hair in a ponytail, she wears Birkenstocks) decides to inform their offspring how babies are made, their explanations (babies are grown from seeds, made out of gingerbread, squeezed from tubes like toothpaste, brought by dinosaurs) are greeted with an explosion of giggles. Their children quickly grab paper and pen and proceed to set the record straight. Cole's drawings and simple text are candid without being offensive and, without getting terribly complicated or serious, communicate the essentials of conception and childbirth in a direct but light-hearted manner that will leave everyone grinning and no one embarrassed. As always, Cole's idiosyncratic, cartoon-style illustrations are a treat--and her renditions of greenhouse babies and baby-paste tubes are outrageously funny. All ages.

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From School Library Journal

PreSchool-Grade 2-Someone laid an egg here, but it wasn't Mommy. What begins as an amusing premise gets waylaid along the way. Mom and Dad offer their kids twists on the old clichés about the birds and the bees. The children are wildly amused, and decide to teach their parents the facts of life, illustrated with their own crayon drawings. In the explanation, Mothers have eggs inside their bodies, while daddies have "seeds in seed pods outside their bodies. Daddies also have a tube. The seeds come out of the pods and through the tube. The tube goes into the mommy's body through a hole." On a double-page spread, a line is drawn from Dad's penis to an opening in Mom, labeled "This fits in here." On the next page readers are shown some ways moms and dads fit together, copulating on a skateboard, hanging from balloons, etc. The "crayon" drawings are crude, but everyone gets the picture. Fertilization and birth follow. The cartoon characters and watercolored line drawings are vibrant and amusing--dad's gray hair is in a ponytail, while mom is a blonde earth-mother type. The kids are messy replicas of their parents. Joanna Cole's *How You Were Born* (Morrow, 1993) still sets the standard; this effort doesn't measure up.

*Denise L. Moll, Lone Pine Elementary School, West Bloomfield, MI*

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From Kirkus Reviews

The full facts about human reproduction, ingeniously set in a story about parents who are offering their son and daughter some whimsical explanations--"You were delivered by a dinosaur" or "Sometimes you just find them under stones"--while the humor of these possibilities is dramatized in Cole's vibrant, cartoony illustrations. After Mom avers, "You can grow them from seeds...Or just squeeze them out of tubes!" and Dad chimes "Mommy laid an egg," the kids take the discussion in hand. Laughing off the nonsense and remarking that "You were right about the SEEDS, the TUBE, and the EGG," they describe what really happens, illustrating with explicit kindergarten-style drawings--a remarkably innovative way to offer diagrams that are clear without being uncomfortably detailed; there are even four "ways mommies and daddies fit together," their faces expressing engagingly childlike glee. The lesson continues until "out pops the baby." "So now YOU know," conclude the sensible tots to their wide-eyed parents (whose cheeks have gone much pinker, the only suggestion that this could be embarrassing), "...and so does everyone else," as they open the door to a slew of animals and their young. For those who choose to share these specifics with young children, a notably fresh, matter-of-fact approach. (Picture book. 4-8) -- Copyright ©1993, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Donald Lester:**

Here thing why this particular Mommy Laid An Egg: Or, Where Do Babies Come From? are different and reliable to be yours. First of all reading a book is good nonetheless it depends in the content than it which is the content is as delightful as food or not. Mommy Laid An Egg: Or, Where Do Babies Come From? giving you information deeper including different ways, you can find any book out there but there is no reserve that similar with Mommy Laid An Egg: Or, Where Do Babies Come From?. It gives you thrill studying journey, its open up your current eyes about the thing that happened in the world which is possibly can be happened around you. You can bring everywhere like in park your car, café, or even in your method home by train. In case you are having difficulties in bringing the printed book maybe the form of Mommy Laid An Egg: Or, Where Do Babies Come From? in e-book can be your alternate.

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#### **Sandra Birk:**

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