Eggs are **egg-strodinary** things - birds, fish, reptiles and even playtpuses lay eggs! A baby animal grows inside an egg (not a shop egg though!) until it is ready to hatch. Therefore, it is very important to keep eggs safe.

This challenge is all about protecting your egg.

**You will need:**

1. A chicken egg from a shop
2. Recycling materials
3. A tape measure
4. An outdoor space (or a plastic bag to put your egg in!)

**The challenge:**

1. Build an egg-protector using your recycling materials (see some ideas below!)

2. Drop your egg in its protector from 1 metre off the ground:
   - Did it break?
     - If so, try a different egg-protector design and try again!
   - If your egg did not break - hurrah!
     - Now try dropping your egg from a slightly higher distance...

3. Keep going until your egg breaks!

**How to protect an egg...**

Here are some of our favourite ways to try keeping an egg safe...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cushion the fall...</th>
<th>Add a parachute...</th>
<th>Soften the shell...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wrapping layers of soft things around the egg gives it a softer landing!</td>
<td>Adding a parachute slows down the egg so it won’t break!!!</td>
<td>Leaving an egg in vinegar makes the shell softer and less breakable!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**The best egg-drop ever!**

David Donoghue set the world record for an egg-drop in 1994.

He dropped an egg (by itself!) out of a helicopter which was as high up as **35 houses** on top of one another!

David carefully worked out the speed and position he dropped his egg, so that it landed on a golf course and didn’t break! **Wow!**

**So why do birds lay eggs?**

Dinosaur scientist Marie-Claire Koschowitz speaks to Oxford Sparks about her research:

You can watch her podcast - ‘Why do birds lay eggs’ here:

[https://www.oxfordsparks.ox.ac.uk/content/marie-claire-koschowitz](https://www.oxfordsparks.ox.ac.uk/content/marie-claire-koschowitz)

**Egg-stra Challenge**

**How far can you throw an unprotected egg without it breaking?**

Add a parachute...

- Soften the shell...
- Cushion the fall...

‘Egg Drop’ by Mini Grey tells the story of a little egg that just wanted to fly... listen to the story here, read by Mrs Sage:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4lxBq9nKig](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4lxBq9nKig)

Did you find one kind of egg-protector worked better than others?

What was the highest you could drop your egg from without it smashing?

Make sure you do this outside, or put your egg into a bag to contain the mess!

Did you find one kind of egg-protector worked better than others?

What was the highest you could drop your egg from without it smashing?

Share your record-breaking egg drops with us!!

@morethanadodo #eggstremedrop