

Pip Pip Cheerio! A Baby Chick is Hatching

Ever wonder how a baby bird gets out of its egg? It has got to require some hard work for such a tiny little animal. Luckily, chicks are equipped with a handy dandy tool built into their beaks called an **egg tooth**. An egg tooth grows at the very tip of the beak. They are very small and sharp enough to help break through the shell of the egg. This is called **pipping**. Learn what it's like to pip through an eggshell with this fun art activity.

You will need:

- Two pieces of paper, any color will work, but white is the easiest to decorate!
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils
- Scissors
- Glue (a glue stick will work well!) or double sided tape
- Optional: tweezers, spoon, fork, or other tools.

Instructions:



Step 1: Draw out an egg shape on the paper



Step 2: Cut out two egg shaped pieces of paper about the same size

*Helpful note: you can make them the same size by putting the two pieces of paper together and cutting them out at the same time



Step 3: Decorate one side of the egg to make your chick! Get creative with your decorations but centering your chick's face will give you the best results. The other piece will be the eggshell, which you can also decorate!

*Helpful note: You will be ripping this paper later, so keep the decorations to the outside edges.

Step 4: Take your chick paper and glue all around its edge; if you are using double-sided tape, tape around the edges. Lay the egg paper on top of your chick, making sure to press down on the edges for it to stick. If you are using glue, wait for it to dry.

With your chick now “sealed” inside its egg, it’s time for it to hatch!



Step 5: Using your fingers, tear open the center of your “eggshell,” revealing your baby chick’s face!

Congratulations! You just pipped. This is similar to how baby chicks hatch out of an egg, using their **egg tooth** to crack and break the eggshell.

Want more of a challenge? Try using different tools like tweezers and spoons to “pip” your paper chick. Which tool worked the best? Which one was harder to tear the paper? Why do you think that is?