START SMALL,
THINK BIG

Unfold a world of discovery with this series that takes readers from the small and familiar to new areas of knowledge where you really have to think big.

small, speckled Egg

This story starts with a small, fragile egg.
Inside a life is forming.
What emerges is one of the most impressive birds on the planet – an Arctic tern.
Read about her life and follow her record-breaking journey from the top of the world to the bottom.
This story ends with a fold-out map.
Are you ready to think big?



mama makes books
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SALES SAMPLE
FEB 2023

First published in the UK in 2023 by Mama Makes Books
ISBN 978-1-7397748-7-5
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A CIP catalogue record of this book is available from the British Library.
Printed in China on FSC paper.

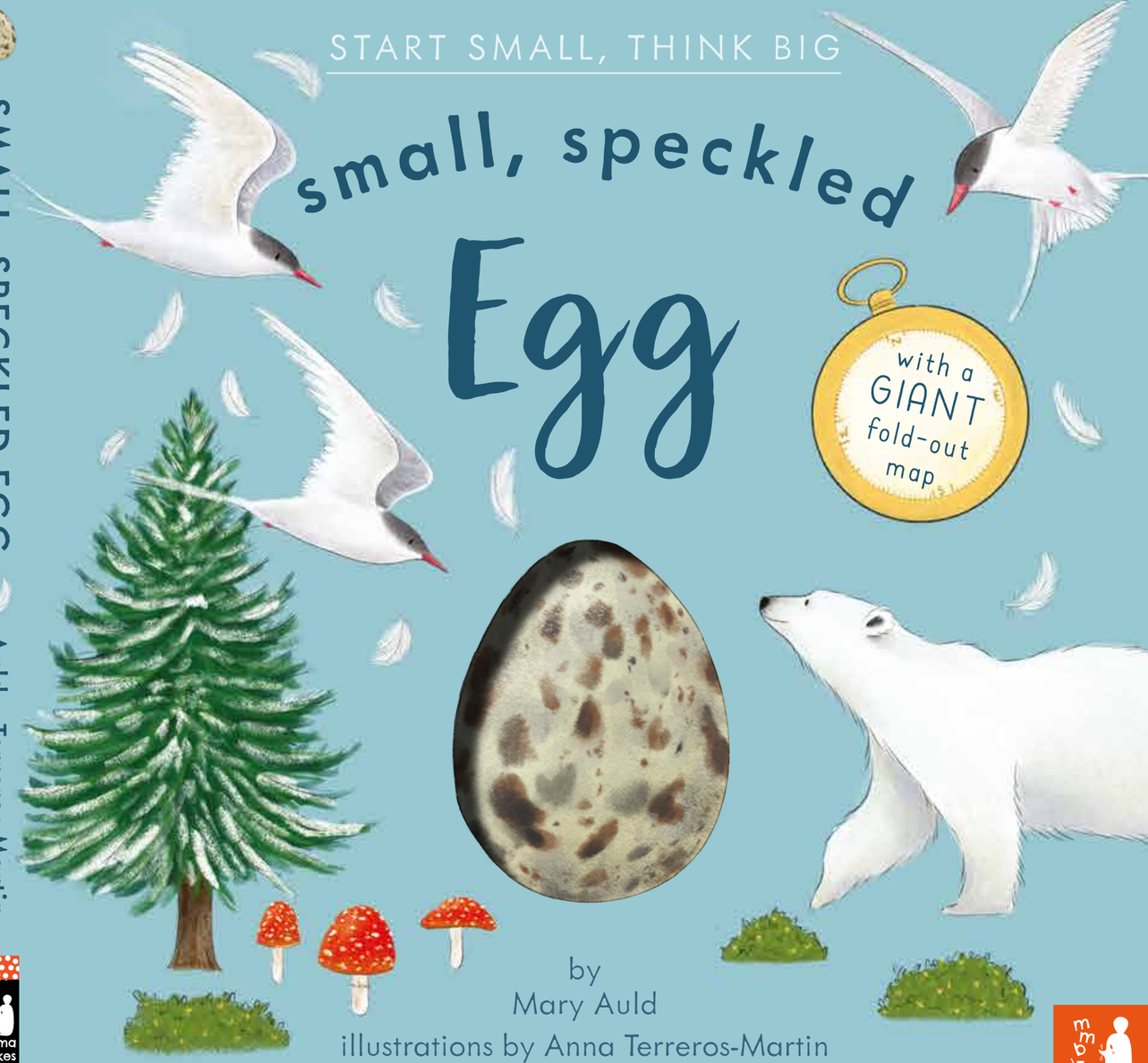
SMALL, SPECKLED EGG • Auld • Terreros-Martin

mama makes books

START SMALL, THINK BIG

small, speckled Egg

with a GIANT fold-out map



by
Mary Auld
illustrations by Anna Terreros-Martin

Here is a small, speckled egg.
Here is the bird who laid the egg.
She is an Arctic tern.
She is my mother.



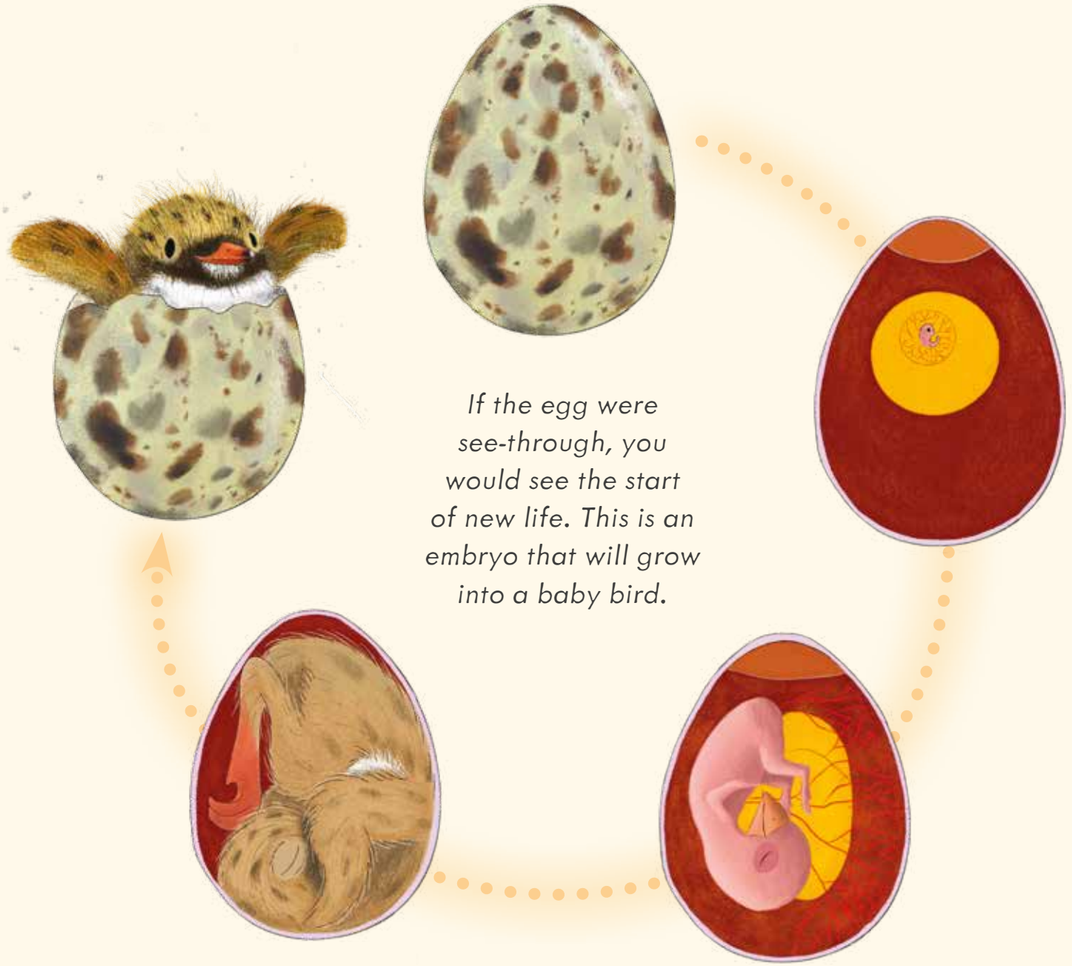


Her speckled egg is hard to spot in its grass-lined nest.



She sits on my egg to keep it warm on the stony ground.

Inside the egg, I am growing.



If the egg were see-through, you would see the start of new life. This is an embryo that will grow into a baby bird.

Here I am, a small, fluffy, downy chick hatched from my egg.
I am ready to be fed.



The chick has pecked and wriggled her way out of her shell.

For three days she is too small to leave the nest. The parents feed her straight away.

The parents find each other by their calls. They say "Here I am!" in the middle of all the other nesting birds.

Here is our colony of terns.
We all nest together by the cold, Arctic Sea.
The sea is full of fish – our favourite food.

Terns form nesting colonies in a place in the far north of the Earth called the Arctic. They spend the sunny spring and summer here.

Can you spot the hungry Arctic fox? One parent calls out "Danger!" and the terns are on guard.

Look out for dive bombers, fox!

Living in a colony helps protect the chicks from danger. The adult terns work together to scare off predators.

The parents dive down at high speed, striking the predator. A tern's beak is sharp! The predator usually runs away.



Even in the cold Arctic, there are predators who prey on eggs and chicks. Predators include polar bears and seagulls, as well as Arctic foxes.



Here I am, a growing chick.
I'm always hungry and cry for food.
Can you see my feathers peeking
through my fluffy down?

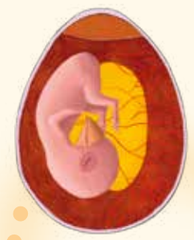
Both my parents feed me. The food gives me the energy I need to live and grow.

Terns skim the water with their beaks or make shallow dives to catch small fish and shellfish.

In the Arctic, the days become very long in the summer. In June, the sun does not set at all. This gives the terns plenty of time to find food.

START SMALL...

This is the life cycle that begins with a small, speckled egg and leads to a beautiful, adult tern. An Arctic tern can live for 30 years.



embryo



chick
(1 day old)



chick
(1 month old))



fledgling
(2 months old)



juvenile tern
(3 months old)



adult tern
(4 months old)



parent
(3 years old)



egg

Terns do not just use their eyes to find their way. They feel the Earth's magnetism, an invisible force field that surrounds the Earth. It is strongest at the Arctic and the Antarctic.

POLAR I-SPY

Find these polar animals somewhere in the book. Do they live in the Arctic or the Antarctic, or both?



polar bear



leopard seal



Arctic tern



Adélie penguin



fin whale



Arctic fox



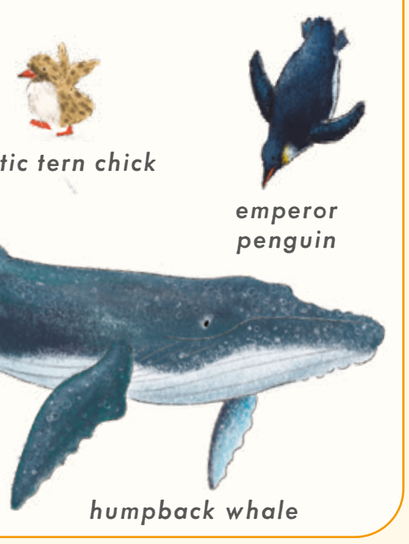
chinstrap penguin



orca



Weddell seals



humpback whale

Arctic tern chick

emperor penguin

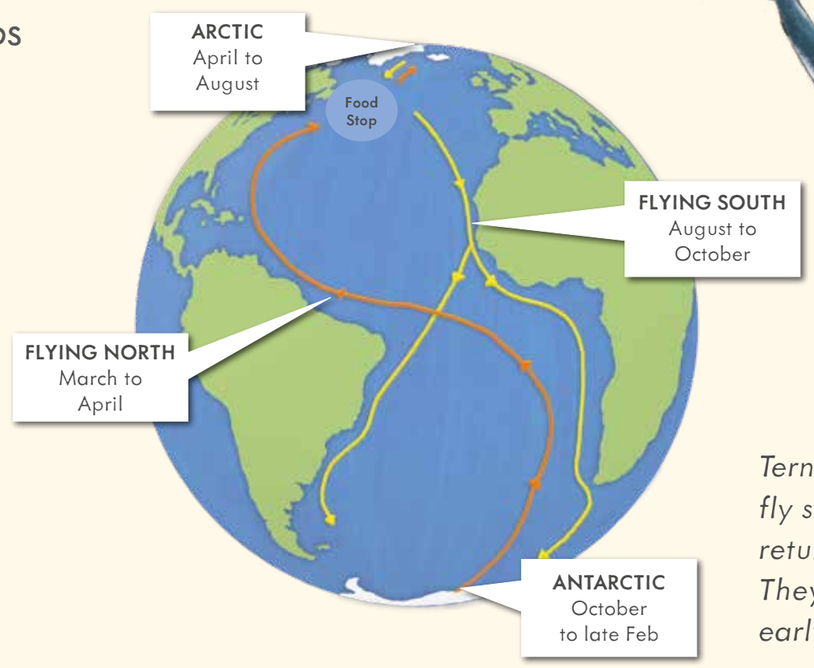
THINK BIG!

MORE DAYLIGHT HOURS
Migrating from Pole to Pole, Arctic terns follow the long daylight hours of summer at either end of the Earth. This gives them more daylight hours than any other animal on our planet.

THE LONGEST MIGRATION
Every year, a tern will fly over 70,900 km between the Arctic and Antarctic. It's the longest migration of any animal on the Earth.

AMAZING NAVIGATION SKILLS
Terns return to the same place in the Arctic each year to nest in the same colony. To do this, they follow coast-lines and use the pull of the invisible magnetic force field around the Earth.

TO THE MOON AND BACK
In their lifetimes, Arctic terns may fly over 2.4 million km. That's the same as flying from the Earth to the Moon and back again over three times.



Terns take over 90 days to fly south to the Antarctic but return north in about 40 days. They leave in late February or early March.