Eggs

Eggs are one of those ambiguous objects in the world that provide a popular topic for riddles: it's white and it's yellow, it's closed but it opens, it's alive but not-alive, etc. As you read through these egg riddles, think about the different aspects of the egg so that you can then re-combine these elements in new ways to create your own riddles.

Some riddles focus on the breaking of eggs:

- **I can't be used until I am broken, but don't worry: I'm easy to break. What am I?** *Answer.* An egg.
- **Though I may hold life, I am not alive. I can be broken, but I never cry. What am I?** *Answer*. An egg.
- **What is white when flying up and yellow after it comes down?** *Answer*. An egg.
- **Why is a promise like an egg?** *Answer*. Because it is so easily broken.
- **Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall; Humpty Dumpty had a great fall; all the great horses, and all the great men couldn't put Humpty together again. Who was Humpty Dumpty?** *Answer*. An egg.

You'll recognize that last one as a nursery rhyme; there are a lot of riddles that come in the form of nursery rhymes!

Other riddles focus on the chick inside the egg:

- **I am a round box: the key to open me is within. Who am I?** *Answer*. An egg.
- **I am a house without a door; the key is locked inside. What am I?** *Answer*. An egg.
- **A feathered one gave birth to an unfeathered one, and an unfeathered one gave birth to a feathered one.** *Answer*. A chicken and an egg.
- **There stood a house all marble-white; one day there was a knock inside: the marble-white walls were shattered and out sprang a yellow marvel. What is it?** *Answer*. A chick hatched from an egg.
- **I have a little house in which I live all alone. It has no doors or windows, and if I want to go out I must break through the wall. What am I?** *Answer*. A chick in an egg.
- **I gave my love a chicken that had no bone. How can there be a chicken that has no bone?** *Answer*. A chicken when it's a new-laid egg, it has no bone.

That last one comes from a famous folk song, and folk songs, like nursery rhymes, like to play with riddles.

Here are some rhyming riddles about eggs:

- **Born of warmth and silent as the night, encased until the time is right. What am I?** *Answer*. A chick inside an egg.
- **I am a vessel without hinges, lock or lid, yet within my walls, a golden treasure is hid. What am I?** *Answer*. An egg.
- **Enclosed in a fortress that's not made of stone, within me, the spark of life has shone. What am I?** *Answer*. An egg.
- **In a marble hall as white as milk, lined with a skin as soft as silk, within a fountain crystal clear a golden apple doth appear: no doors there are to this stronghold, yet thieves break in to steal the gold.** *Answer*. An egg.

Of course, not only chickens lay eggs. Here are some riddles about other creatures who lay eggs:

- **Down it goes into the water, under the water, through the water, but it never gets wet.** *Answer*. An egg inside a mother-duck.
- **Hard as rock, no rock is it; grass it eats, no sheep is it; eggs it lays, no fowl is it.** *Answer*. A turtle.

Finally, these "trick" riddles play with the way that eggs are easily broken:

- **How can you drop an egg ten feet without breaking it?** *Answer*. Drop it eleven feet and it will fall ten feet before it breaks.
- **How would you drop an egg onto a concrete floor without cracking it?** *Answer*. Don't worry: it takes more than an egg to crack a concrete floor.
- **I know how to throw an egg against the wall, and it will never break nor fall. How can that be?** *Answer*. That's nothing special: no egg can break a wall or knock it down!

So, be on the lookout for egg-riddles when you are playing the game, and maybe you will want to make up some riddles of your own by mixing-and-matching the egg riddles listed here, or perhaps by taking a non-rhyming riddle and making it rhyme!