



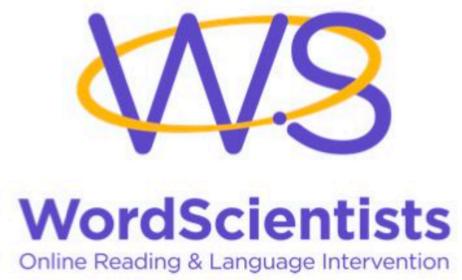
# An Abandoned Egg in the Forest

4 Written by Linda Rae Liss  
Illustrations by Genn Lotysh



# Chapter 1

## The Capture





For more books and lesson guides, visit us at  
[www.WordScientists.org](http://www.WordScientists.org)  
Copyright 2020, WordScientists LLC.

 **WordScientists**  
Online Reading & Language Intervention

Written by

Linda Rae Liss

Illustrated by

Genn Lotysh

Inspired by the Story: **The Elephant Bird**

Written by Arefa Tehsin & Published by Pratham Books



Deep in the forest, Mother Elephant bird sat on her egg to keep it warm. She dreamed of when her baby would finally hatch.

She sent Father bird to gather fruit because she didn't want to leave her egg unprotected.



## Vowel Syllable Pattern Chart

Magic e 	Long Vowel Digraph Vowel Team 		Bossy R 		Variant Vowel Vowel Team Variant Vowels 		Diphthong Vowel Team 
side	deep	pleased	mother	forest	troop	mood	around
meanwhile	keep	meet	bird	captors	whooping	noon	about
inside	dreamed	know	her	more	woo	blew	out
realized	leave	faraway	gather	orchard	looming	hoot	town
escape	nearby	way	father		zoomed	mew	house
came	hear	waiting	other		crew	new	sound
save	meanwhile	waited	return		looped	knew	owl
saved	heels	approaching	heard		threw	few	
named	free	fruit	girl		zoo	stood	
home	each	juicy	heart		gloom	shook	
ropes	needs				school	took	
					grew	look	

In an orchard nearby, Father Elephant bird collected juicy fruits to bring back to the nest.

He was so busy that he didn't hear the troop of captors approaching from the other side of the orchard.



Just past noon, Sarita heard a pecking sound. The top of the eggshell blew off. The giant baby bird did not mew like a kitten. It did not hoot, like an owl. It did not whoop, like its Mother bird. The baby Elephant bird peeped. Sarita was pleased to meet her new friend. Her quick-thinking saved the baby Elephant bird. She named the baby Anvi.



Meanwhile, back at the nest, Mother Elephant bird was very alert. She stretched her neck to listen. She was waiting for Father bird to return.

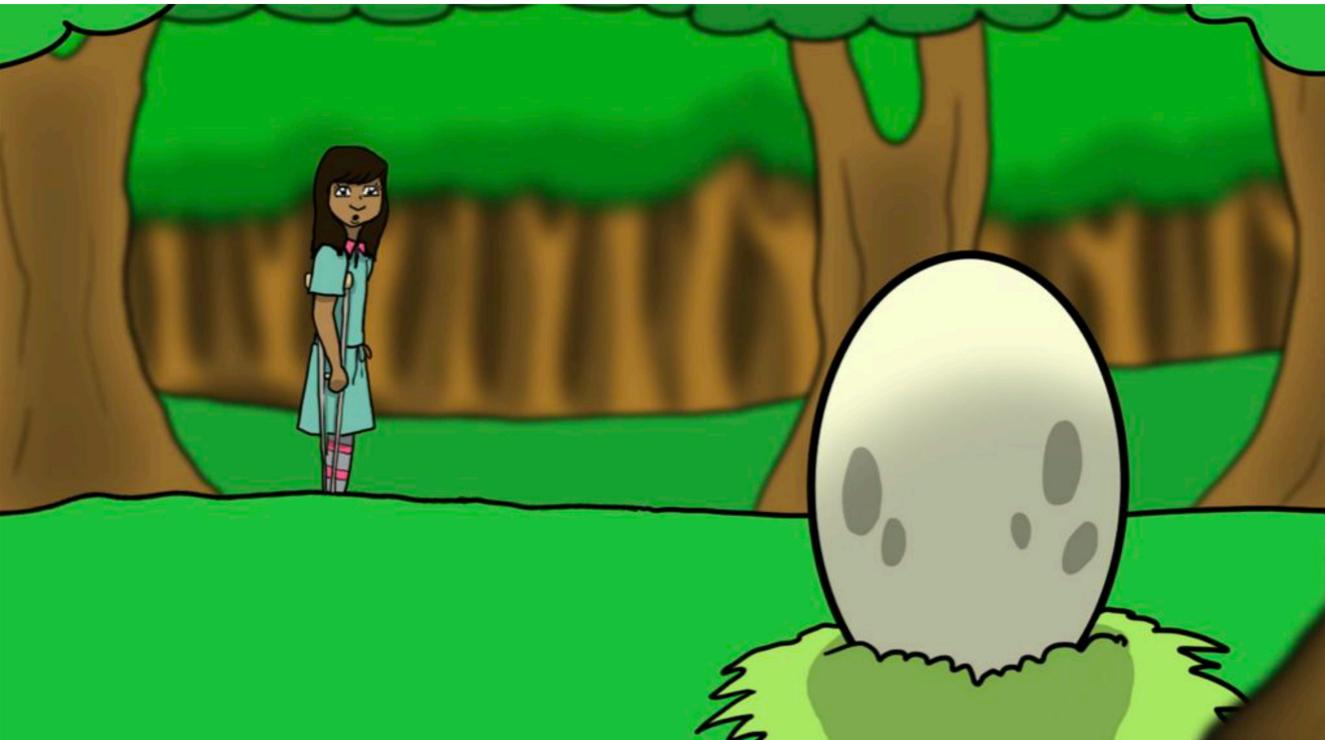
Then she heard a frantic whooping call from Father bird. The whooping call, "WOO, WOO," warned her of looming danger. So she left her nest and zoomed towards the calls for help.



The crew of captors looped ropes around the necks of both Mother and Father Elephant birds. They threw nets over them. The two Elephant birds stood fast, digging their heels into the soft grass. They shook and shook, but they could not get free of the giant nets. "WOO, WOO," called the two birds to each other, but there was nothing more they could do. They were no match for the crew of men who had ropes and nets. The crew did not know about the egg that Mother Elephant bird had left behind.

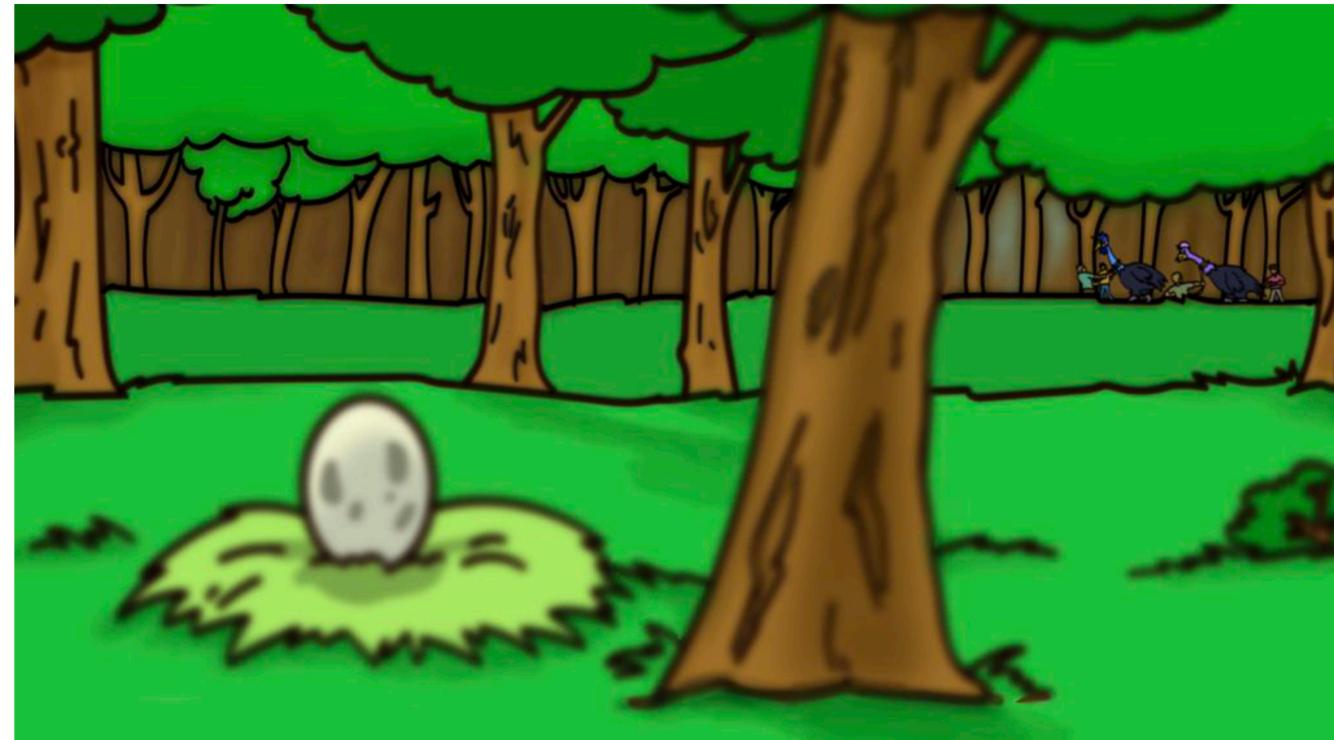


Sarita went back to her house and got a blanket. She threw it over the egg to keep it warm. She was in an excited mood as she waited and waited...



Meanwhile, back in the forest, Sarita, a girl from the village, was on her way home from school. She came upon the giant egg. Sarita was surprised she could not find the mother or father bird anywhere. She realized the egg was abandoned.

She knew that for an egg to hatch, it needs the warmth of the mother bird sitting on it. Sarita had a kind heart so she had to do something to save the baby inside the egg. As she took a closer look, Sarita wondered what type of a bird grew inside such a giant egg. Then she had a plan.



After a few minutes, the crew left the forest dragging along the two Elephant birds. The egg remained in its nest, out of sight. Inside the egg, the baby Elephant bird did not know what was happening.

Perhaps the baby inside missed the warmth of its mother sitting on the nest.



The Elephant birds were sold to a zoo in a faraway town.

Mother bird was full of gloom. She was heartbroken thinking of the unhatched baby she left behind. Father bird was thinking about a way to escape.

