

HomeFront. PROJECT

KIDS

Teach, Empower and Enjoy Your Children.

**Both Moms and Dads Matter
Amazing Mothers and Fathers!**



Photo Credit: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/cmichel67/11240219084>

Both Moms and Dads Matter Amazing Mothers and Fathers!

Did you know that penguins are really good parents? They are so good at being mothers and fathers that scientists say we can learn to be better parents to our children by watching what they do for their young.

Penguin mothers usually can only lay one egg. Once she has laid that egg it is up to the father to carry that egg on his feet and under his feathers, in something called a brood pouch, until the egg hatches. This keeps the egg nice and warm in the freezing temperatures of the Antarctic.

The mother leaves for a time to get lots of food to build up her fat reserves. During this time the father penguin will not eat, but will continuously care for the egg, balancing it on one foot in the brood pouch so it is safe and warm.

When the chick finally hatches from the egg, the mother and father penguins take turns watching over their little chick, getting enough food for their chick, and protecting their chick from all predators. Additionally, penguin chicks rely on their parents until their original down covering is replaced with waterproof feathers and they can enter the cold waters and go out on their own. These penguin parents are completely devoted to their children.

Similarly, human mothers and fathers have a responsibility to their children. Children need their mother and father to love them, care for them, and protect them. The needs of children are best met by a loving mother and father who are devoted in caring for their children. Children have the right to their mother and father. Children desire to know and be loved by their own mother and father.

Discuss

What do you think would happen to the penguin chick if their parents did not care for them?