One day, the egg hatches. A chick pokes its head out. It peeks at the cold, white world. The male penguin keeps the fluffy chick warm. He keeps it off the ice. It sits on his feet.

The cold, white world is harsh, but it is a home.

Most penguins lay eggs in a nest. But an emperor penguin warms the egg, then chick, on its feet!

18

Chick chat

Chicks are always hungry. Groups of chicks huddle in a **crèche** when their parents go to sea to hunt. An adult penguin stays with them.



The male penguin does not eat for about nine weeks while he cares for his egg and chick.