THE DONKEY EGG
by Janet Stevens

Featuring Bear and Hare from their Caldecott-Honor winning Tops & Bottoms, the Stevens sisters celebrate perseverance and teamwork in this laugh-out-loud story of triumph over trickery.

Bear would rather sleep all day than work on his farm, and Fox knows just the kind of help he needs—a donkey! When Fox tricks Bear into buying a donkey egg, Bear can’t wait for it to hatch so he can meet his new friend. But donkeys don’t come from eggs! And when the “egg” finally opens, Bear gets a fruity surprise. Luckily, Bear doesn’t have to face disappointment alone . . . Hare is there to help!

Fun Facts:
* Georgia is the third largest watermelon-producing state in the nation. Approximately thirty-thousand acres of Georgia land is planted with watermelons each year, and each acre produces from 35,000-50,000 pounds of this delicious and nutritious fruit.
* Cordele, Georgia, county seat of Crisp County, is known as the Watermelon Capital of the World and hosts an annual Watermelon Days Festival.
* Watermelons annually add up to $57 million to Georgia’s economy.
* Watermelons, as the name implies, are mostly water—over 90%.
* While most people think of the juicy red part of the watermelon first, all parts of a watermelon are edible. The seeds can be baked, and even the rinds can be made into pickles.

Videos
* Farm Monitor- Georgia Watermelons Making Their Way To Stores For Summer
* America’s Heartland- Watermelon Farmers

Activities
* Several watermelon life cycle activities
* Watermelon Squish Bag
* Watermelon STEM Book - The Stem Laboratory
* Watermelon Salsa
* Watermelon Pineapple Salsa
* Watermelon Cheesecake Dip
* Watermelon Seed Spitting Contest
* Plant watermelon seeds or plants in the school garden