



# Poultry Project



Monthly Lesson Plan



March 2022

## Upcoming Deadlines

- ✓ June 15th – All fowl owned and ID on 4HOnline by June 15



## Project Progress

Suggest the following as things your members should work on or accomplish with their project this month. Follow up to see which they achieved:



1. **E Record Books:** Download the 2022 Livestock Record book (or Lease an Animal Record Book if leasing) for their age and complete the front page and Goals page
2. **Hands On:** Inspect or design their coop. Make sure there are no hazards that can injure birds or weak spots that could allow predators in. Learn more in the Poultry Resource Handbook pg. 30.
3. **Knowledge:** Attend the upcoming Poultry Webinar Series workshop
4. **Other:** Review project requirements listed on the Project Tipsheets
5. **Other:** Update your calendar with 2022 Animal Project Dates



## Opportunities

See 4-H Calendars for full details & more recently added events

- Poultry Webinar Series:
  - Feb. 24th , 7:00pm – Poultry 101- Intro to Poultry Ownership
  - Mar. 10th, 7:00pm – Poultry Paths
  - Mar. 29 , 7:00pm – Breeding & Show Birds 101
  - March 17 – Virtual Record Book Workshop





# Poultry Project



March 2022

## Attached Activities

Use these suggested activities at club project meetings to increase member knowledge and keep members engaged in their project.

### Group: Eggs-periment

- Demonstrate the strength of chicken eggs with this fun, hands on experiment!

### Individual: 4-H Poultry Activity Page

- a. This activity page can be completed by poultry members at home and will help to review/learn information and begin to plan for their upcoming 4-H year.

\*for more Poultry project activities, order the National 4-H Curriculum "Poultry Helpers Guide" through the 4-H Office\*



## Fun Fact

You may be able to tell the shell color by the hen's earlobe. Hens with white earlobes typically lay white or lightly tinted eggs. Hens with red earlobes most commonly lay brown eggs.



## Timely Tips to Share

Laying hens often slow their egg production in the winter as available sunlight decreases and temperatures get colder. To help them maintain egg production, provide 14 to 16 hours of light per day.



## Resources



- 1. The following & more can be found on the ADCO 4-H Poultry Project Webpage: <https://adams.extension.colostate.edu/4-h-youth/4-h-horse-project/>
  - 2022 Animal Project Save the Dates
  - Poultry Resource Handbook \*\*NEW & FREE DOWNLOAD\*\*
  - E Record Books
  - Fourcast Newsletter Signup
  - Project Tipsheet
- 1. 4-H Poultry Facebook Page – great for posting questions & updates etc.
  - FB: "Adams County Colorado 4-H Poultry"



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ADAMS COUNTY  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION

# National Western Stock Show School Visits

## TEACHER'S GUIDE

### Lesson Plan



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION

#### 4-H Project Connections:

- Poultry
- Nutrition

#### Goals:

- To teach students the parts of an egg
- To help students understand the strength of a structure with arches in it

#### Age Appropriate:

- 1st - 4th grade

#### 4-H Life Skills:

- Learning to learn
- Observation
- Prediction
- Hypothesize

#### Colorado Department of Education Standards:

##### Science:

1.2.1 All organisms have external parts that they use to perform daily functions

2.1.1 Matter exists as different substances that have observable different properties

4.2.1 Organisms have both internal and external structures that serve various functions

## Eggs-periment with eggs! Part 1

An egg is a wonder of nature. The parts of the egg all have important purposes both for chickens and for human nutrition. Even the architecture of the egg is copied by engineers today! The study of eggs is called oology, a word that can be remembered because some of its letters (write oology on the board) look like an egg. Let's do a little oology today. Note to teacher: the lesson is divided into 2 parts - see next page for Part 2.

### Beginning the lesson...

1. Show students a chicken egg. Explain that the chicken egg is an architectural (way things are built) marvel. When an egg is stood on one end, the arch that it forms is really stronger than you might think. (Show a picture of a bridge with an arch structure).
2. Let's do an eggs-periment to show the strength of an egg. Explain that you are going to put four eggs in a rectangular outline with the large end of each egg set firmly into a piece of clay. A small piece of clay is put on the top (small end) of the egg with a thin piece of plywood on top of the eggs.
3. Have students hypothesize how many large books can be set on the plywood before the eggs break. Take a count so a graph can be made if you would like a math lesson to evolve also.
4. Carefully add books one at a time to the center of the platform.
5. See who was closest to the amount of books held before the eggs broke.

### Test your understanding...

*Have each child tell whether their hypothesis was found to be true or not.*

### Extending the lesson...

1. Try the experiment with the eggs lying on their sides (a different size of arch).
2. Have students find pictures on the Internet or otherwise that show structures with an arch. Discuss.
3. Do a magic trick for your students. (Test the egg yourself before having students do this, just in case there is a crack that is not detectable.) Pick up an egg; make sure it has no cracks in it. Ask the class who one of the strongest students is. Have the student come up front. Put the egg in his/her hand lengthwise across the palm of the hand. Tell the student that you bet they aren't strong enough to break the egg by squeezing it. Make sure the student does not have a ring or anything on their hand that would give uneven pressure on the egg shell. Have the student try it. (They should not be able to break it unless it has a minor crack in it.) Now put it in your hand the same way, but make sure you have a ring with a setting on your hand that will give uneven pressure on the shell so that it breaks. (The setting will have to be turned toward your palm.) You are now the strongest person in the classroom!

#### Time Required:

-30 minutes

#### Materials:

- Picture of a bridge with arch structure
- At least 5 eggs
- Modeling clay
- Rectangular piece of plywood
- At least 7 or 8 heavy books

#### Vocabulary:

- Architecture
- Oology
- Arch
- Hypothesis

Book your school visit at [adams.colostate.edu](http://adams.colostate.edu)



# 4-H POULTRY ACTIVITY PAGE

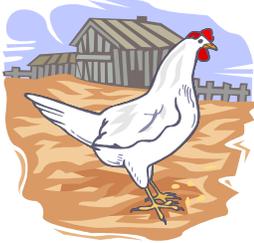
Developed by **Martin Koon**, Extension Agent, Montgomery County

Beginning

## Your 4-H ANIMAL SCIENCE—POULTRY Project

Are you responsible? Do others trust you to follow through with a commitment? Being responsible is a skill that everyone should have. Learning to be responsible can start by caring for an animal. When you care for an animal, you are responsible for providing everything that animal needs. To do this, you need to know about your animal and how to take care of it.

This 4-H project can help you learn things you need to know to work with poultry. Some of the skills you can learn and activities you can do in this project are listed below. Check your favorites. Then, work with your 4-H leaders and parents to make a 4-H project plan for what you want to do and learn this year.



- Learn about different poultry breeds.
- Learn the four basic needs of a day-old chick.
- Develop poultry management skills.
- Produce healthy chickens.
- Learn proper poultry nutrition.
- Contribute to your home food supply.
- Conduct a service project using project skills you have learned.
- Other \_\_\_\_\_



Life Skill  
Responsibility



### LAY AN EGG

The average laying hen lays 257 eggs a year. How many hours does it take a hen to lay a single egg? \_\_\_\_\_

## Managing Poultry

As they grow, your animals will depend on you to care for them. Baby **chicks** require lots of tender loving care. They depend on you for all their needs while they are in the six-week **brooding period**. The **growing period** begins next. It continues until the **pullets** are ready to lay and become **layers**. Listed below are some of the most important needs your flock will have. Look in books or on the Internet to learn more about how to care for your animals as they grow. Share what you learn in a 4-H meeting.

- Space
- Ventilation
- Light
- Temperature
- Access to feed and water
- Roosts
- Nests



### Breeds

Before you choose a breed of chicken, you need to decide if you want to raise chickens for eggs or meat. Different breeds are used for egg production (**egg-type**), for meat (**meat-type**) or both (**dual-purpose**). Look in books or on the Internet to learn more about breeds. Share what you learn in a 4-H meeting.

### My Poultry Story

Describe your flock! On another sheet of paper, write a story about your chickens. Include your birds' breed, health, age and daily work involved with raising your flock. Include a photo if you'd like. Share your story with others and keep it in your 4-H project folder.

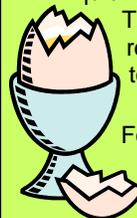
### Jumbo to Pee Wee

Eggs, like people and chickens, come in different sizes. Visit a grocery store to see the sizes of eggs. How are they different? What is the difference in price? Record what you learn in your 4-H project folder and share it in a 4-H meeting.

- 30 oz per dozen eggs = jumbo
- 27 oz per dozen eggs = extra large
- 24 oz per dozen eggs = large
- 21 oz per dozen eggs = medium
- 18 oz per dozen eggs = small
- 15 oz per dozen eggs = pee wee

### Try This—Eggs Cooked in the Shell

Place eggs in a single layer in a saucepan. Add enough tap water to come at least 1 inch above eggs. Cover the pan and quickly bring just to the boiling point.



Turn off the heat. If necessary, remove the pan from the burner to prevent further boiling.

For hard-cooked eggs, let eggs stand, covered, in the hot water for about 15 minutes for large eggs. Adjust time up or down by about three minutes for each size larger or smaller.

Immediately run cold water over eggs or place them in ice water until completely cold.

To remove the shell, crack it by tapping gently all over. Roll egg between hands to loosen shell, then peel, starting at large end. Hold egg under running cold water or dip in bowl of water to help ease off shell.

Share your eggs with friends or family. Eat and enjoy!

## 4-H POULTRY ACTIVITY PAGE

### Poultry Parts

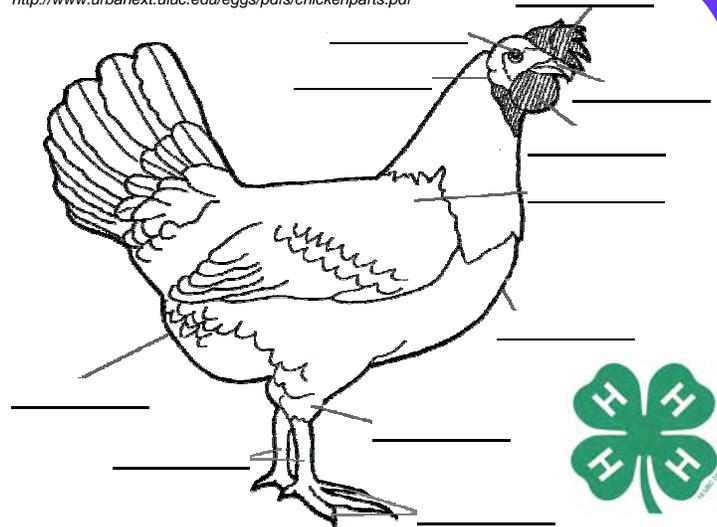
If you are going to be responsible for your chicken, you should be familiar with its anatomy. Label the parts of the chicken using the words in the box. Then, look in books or on the Internet to learn more about each part. Share what you learn in a 4-H meeting. You can also search for the words in the puzzle.

S I Z Y M X H H W Y  
K H K C S J X W A Y  
S B O E G Q O E T Z  
O K O U Z E A L T N  
V T N F L R E E L I  
C E J A L D Y J E K  
O A N O H E E J S A  
M U B T X S J R R E  
B E T S A E R B D B  
H O C K F K Q C Z P

#### Words to Use

BEAK  
BREAST  
COMB  
EARLOBE  
EYE  
HOCK  
SHANKS  
SHOULDER  
TOES  
VENT  
WATTLES

Graphic adapted from University of Illinois Extension  
<http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/eggs/pdfs/chickenparts.pdf>



### Career Scavenger Hunt

By asking others, researching on the Internet or reading a book or magazine—search for a job that uses poultry skills and knowledge. Here's what you are looking for.

1. Job Title \_\_\_\_\_
2. Job Description \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Education Required \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Service Ideas

- ◆ Donate eggs to a food bank.
- ◆ Conduct an educational "show-and-tell" for younger children.
- Provide eggs for a community Easter egg hunt.



Don't forget to submit your project report to your 4-H leader.

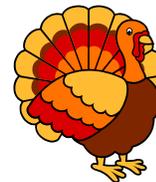
### Additional Resources

Responsibility is an important part of the poultry project. This activity sheet has given you the opportunity to explore things you need to know so you can be responsible for your animal. But this is just the beginning! Use the resources listed below to continue learning about poultry.

- School & public libraries
- People who know about poultry
- 4-H project groups
- The 4-H poultry Web page:

<http://www.utextension.utk.edu/4h/projects/poultry.htm>

For more ideas, contact your 4-H office.



### Other 4-H Poultry Activities

4-H Chick Chain  
4-H speech  
4-H demonstrations  
Fair exhibits

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