



Our Feathered Friends

Adventures on a Chicken Farm

Lesson Plan/Guidebook



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Our Feathered Friends Lesson Plan/Guidebook

Lesson One:

Discussion Questions

Materials Needed: "Our Feathered Friends" DVD

Time to complete: 60 minutes

After viewing the film "Our Feathered Friends", ask your students the following questions.

1. Where do chickens originally come from? Why are they referred to as "jungle birds"?
2. Name all the kinds of birds found in and around the chicken farm. Discuss what each bird does and their role. Answers include hens, roosters, chicks, pheasants, hawks.
3. What role do roosters have? Why do they fight each other? Answers can include protecting the roost, mating and they fight to determine who is the top rooster of the whole roost.
4. What do chickens eat? How do they find their food? Answer can include worms, insects, meat. They pick the ground and catch flying insects.
5. How do chickens clean themselves? Answers can include rolling in dirt, picking at feathers.
6. How long does it take for an egg to hatch? Answer: Three weeks.
7. What three things do chicks need in order to grow? Answer: heat, water, food.
8. When do new chicks join the rest of the flock? Answer: Not right away. They are first taught by their hen in how to clean themselves, eat, etc.
9. How can you tell how old a rooster is? Answer: By the length of the spurs on their feet.
10. How do chickens learn to sleep in trees? Answer: By watching other chickens and behavior that is part of their makeup.

National Standards in Science Correlation: NS K-4.3 and NS 5-8.3

Lesson Two:

Writing Activity – “A Day on the Farm”

Materials Needed: “Our Feathered Friends” DVD

Time to complete: 1-2 days.

Step One:

Watch the DVD “Our Feathered Friends” with your students.

Step Two:

Ask your students to choose one of the following birds featured in the film.

- Rooster
- Hen
- Chick
- Pheasant
- Hawk

Then, ask them to write a one-page story as the bird they picked.

The story should be about their “bird” and what activities they take part in on the farm and with other birds.

The story must include:

- Description of the bird
- What makes them unique from other birds.
- What their role is on the farm.

Step Three:

Select students to read their stories to the class.

National Standards in Science Correlation: NS K-4.3

National Standards in English Correlation: NL-ENG.K-12.12

Name _____

Date _____

Our Feathered Friends Word Find

Find each of the following words.

HEN	ROOSTER	INCUBATOR	AMADEUS
FLOCK	SPARROW	SPRING	HAWK
FALL	EGG	WINTER	SUMMER
TREE	FEATHER	PHEASANT	CHICKEN

O A R W O F E A T H E R A E S E E G W S H L N
T N A P T L T E L K A H P N R T L S F R N M G
H O H C S W L O S P A R R O W G N O S F N W E
E K A T G O F E N W I N C U B A T O R K I H S
I P W T E U T R N R E N W R R G S G U N G A W
O A A A S G N E O O A E D R E T E R T S P K S
U L P R H O G K C O L F T S R N G E R U E W A
H F O L L A F E R A N L L S M A R G F E E H S
R K W A N E N R E E G R W L H S G F L D R C W
O U T S E U R R H K G N K A P A G R E A T H U
O R M U A E U E I I A E I H A E N R A M B I C
S E E S A N M I M U E C F R A H E H U A T C A
T R E O I A C E S M T T L M P P C T R E R K E
E A W M R R K A H E U C A B E S S R K N F E E
R R C E E N A F O M N S W S H T O T O H N N R
G E L N R F I R E H P F T N O O M H E M P K C

Answer Key

HEN	FLOCK	FALL	TREE
ROOSTER	SPARROW	EGG	FEATHER
INCUBATOR	SPRING	WINTER	PHEASANT
AMADEUS	HAWK	SUMMER	CHICKEN

F E A T H E R

		S P A R R O W		W
K		I N C U B A T O R		I
	W E			N
	A G		T T S	
	H G K C O L F		N E U E	
	L L A F	N	A R	E E
R		E G	S	D R C
O	R H	N	A	A T H
O	E	I	E	M I
S	M	R H	A	C
T		M	P P	K
E		U	S	E
R		S		N

Vocabulary

Hen – The female of domestic fowl.

Rooster – The male of domestic fowl.

Brooding – To sit on or hatch eggs.

Pecking Order - A system of organization among a flock of poultry. In this system, a bird pecks another bird who is of lower rank, and submits to pecking from a bird of higher rank.

Roost - a large cage, house, or place for fowls or birds to roost in.

Embryo – An unborn chick.

Resources:

The 21-day chick lifecycle – An Online Visual Guide.

<http://chickscope.beckman.uiuc.edu/explore/embryology/>

Guide to Eggs

<http://www.aeb.org/LearnMore/>

Guide to Chickens for Grades K-3

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/themes/chicken.shtml>

University of Illinois Guide to Chickens.

<http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/eggs/>