Eggs, The Inside Story
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Eggs, The Inside Story - A Science Based Unit for Students aged 9-11 years

Science
Students develop knowledge of eggs through observing, experimenting, researching and recording. They investigate the lifecycle of chickens, egg production methods and the processing of eggs. They develop an understanding of the importance of eggs in our diet. The welfare of chickens and the issue of sustainability is addressed.

English
The context of chickens and egg production provides students with numerous opportunities for listening, reading, viewing, speaking, writing and creating. Students work with a variety of text types for recording, reporting, presenting and interpreting information.

Mathematics
Students make estimations and measure eggs. They make calculations on the cost of eggs and setting up a backyard chicken house. They analyse data in tables and present data in the form of graphs. Students help calculate the cost of equipment required for the school chicken pen proposal.

History
Students read about the history of egg production, appreciate why changes have occurred and create a timeline. They also learn that cultural aspects affect the development of our language by researching the meaning of some of our common sayings.

Creative Arts
A number of activities, using a variety of materials and processes have been provided for teachers to use.

PE and Health
Students understand the place of eggs in our diet and how diet is managed in egg production. Safety issues when cooking are identified. PE activities are included.

Assessment
A number of worksheets have been developed for this unit. Many activities and worksheets could be used for assessment purposes.

Technology
Activities provide opportunities for using digital technology in teaching, research, calculation and presentation.

The focus of this integrated unit is for students to develop their knowledge and understanding about eggs, chickens and the egg production industry in Australia. The new Australian National Content Descriptors from the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority have been used. Activities have been included that would be suitable for the World Poultry Science Association (WPSA) schools competition.
Activity 1

Looking at eggs.

Students observe, discuss, and test their predictions about eggs. They read about birds and discuss their unique features, some of which have given rise to sayings that have been incorporated in our language. They measure eggs and do cost calculations.

Introductory lessons

Science: Questions to ask the class
Where do these eggs come from? Can you describe the eggs? How are they different? Can you list the different colours? Is colour significant in any way? Can you suggest reasons for the different sizes? The Story of Eggs - p11
What shape are the eggs? Why?
Describe the shell and learn about its features. The Story of Eggs - p12
Discuss how you can tell if an egg is fresh. Why is this important? Test by putting an egg in a bowl of water. The Story of Eggs - p49
Discuss how you can tell if an egg is boiled. Why is this important? Test if egg is boiled. Break some eggs into a saucer. Ask students to identify the parts and discuss observations. Complete the “Looking at Eggs” worksheet.


What other eggs can be eaten e.g. eggs of fish?

English: Read “What makes a Bird a Bird” by M. Garelick
Discuss the information, text structure and language features in the book.
Use the list of chicken sayings to develop activities involving reading, researching, interpreting, illustrating, and oral presentation.
Write a report about chicken eggs.

Maths: Measure the dimensions and mass of eggs.
Undertake calculations on the cost of eggs.

Visual Arts: Choose one or more activities on the Visual Arts sheet.

Library Research: There is a series of library research/information skill activities in the Library Research section that should be introduced with this activity.

Spelling: There are word lists and activities to complement the class spelling program to be introduced with this activity.

Resources

• Collect a variety of hen eggs. Include eggs that are small, medium, large, extra large, white, brown, pink and freckled -use fresh eggs if possible.
• One old egg - required for the freshness test.
• One hard-boiled egg - for boiled egg test.
  • “Looking at Eggs” worksheet.
  • A collection of images of poultry.
  • Book “Poultry Agskills: A Practical Guide to Farm Skills” by D Brouwer
  • Book “The Story of Eggs” The Workboot Series Kondinin Group
  • “Science Experiments 1” worksheet.
  • “Spelling Activities” worksheet.
  • Book “What makes a Bird a Bird” by May Garelick, illustrated Trish Hill.
  • “Bird Sayings” worksheet.
  • “Measuring Eggs” worksheet.
  • “Visual Arts” sheet

Additional Information

Always wash your hands after you have been touching broken or uncooked eggs.

Interesting Facts: Australian consumers prefer brown eggs while Americans prefer white eggs. Some consumers think brown eggs are healthier than other colours. This is not true.
### Activity 2  Experiments with eggs.

Students undertake experiments with eggs and discuss their findings. They write recounts of the experiments on worksheets. They undertake decorating egg activities in Visual Arts.

**Science:** Discuss experiment techniques. Collect resources for the experiments. Ask students to predict what will happen. Divide students into groups and provide each group with an experiment or do as a whole class. Report and discuss the results. Record findings on the Factual Recount worksheet.

**Experiments:** Floating an Egg in Salt Water, Strength of an Egg, Bouncing Eggs and Egg in a Bottle.


**English:** Writing activities
- poetry writing about eggs. Suggestions – shape, colour, texture, potential for food or new life.
- recount on each science experiment

**Visual Arts:** Colouring and decorating eggs. The CD “Eggs Resource Kit” file WBS Egg Kit.pdf, p143-157 has a number of creative activities.

### Activity 3  Looking at lifecycles of oviparous animals

Students investigate the role of eggs in the lifecycle of chickens. They look at the basic anatomy of a chicken and graph time and temperature.

**Science:** Chickens belong to a group of animals that are oviparous. Introduce the lesson with the word oviparous and discuss briefly. Draw/display the lifecycle of a chicken and discuss the various stages. Provide the Lifecycle of a Chicken worksheet with pictures of eggs, hens, chickens, and roosters for Students to make a chicken lifecycle for their workbooks or to display. Display the egg diagram used in Activity 1. Discuss the parts in relation to the development of a chicken. The Story of the Eggs – p10.

**Incubating Eggs**
Discuss hatching, naturally and in an incubator. List the conditions required for eggs to hatch. (fertile eggs, broody hen or incubator, constant temperature, suitable humidity level and quiet area) http://www.poultryhub.org/bird-health-and-disease/raising-backyard-chicken/

**Additional Information**
Remind students to wash their hands after handling eggs.

### Additional Resources
- “Science Experiments 2” worksheet.
- Materials for cleaning up.
- “Factual Recount (Experiment)” worksheet
- “Factual Recount (Experiment)” worksheet
- Chicken Eggs, “Visual Arts” sheet

- Book “Poultry Ag Skills A Practical Guide to Farm Skills”
- Lifecycle of a Chicken worksheet
- DVD From Hatchery to Home – incubator section only
- Temperature and Time worksheet
- Chicken Anatomy worksheet
- Visual Arts sheet
**Mathematics**
Construct suitable data displays, with and without the use of digital technologies, from given or collected data. Include tables, column graphs and picture graphs where one picture can represent many data values. (ACMSP096)

**Visual Arts**
Represent the features of chickens using wool.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity 4</th>
<th>Methods of egg production</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students investigate the three main methods of commercial egg production. They learn about the preparation of eggs for sale using a flowchart. They interpret and graph data.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Science**
With guidance, identify questions in familiar contexts that can be investigated scientifically and predict what might happen based on prior knowledge. (ACSIS064)

**English**
Use comprehension strategies to build literal and inferred meaning to expand content knowledge, integrating and linking ideas and analysing and evaluating texts. (ACELY1692)

**Maths**
Construct suitable data displays, from given or collected data. (ACMSP096)

**Science: Production**
Where do people buy their eggs - supermarkets, farmers’ markets, friends, organic produce stores and others? Discuss.
Display a collection of egg cartons obtained from a supermarket. For example, barn laid, cage, free-range, organic, omega 3, etc. What information do the cartons provide?
Make a list of the different types of eggs available for sale. Use egg carton labels to assist.
List the main types of egg production, (barn laid, free-range and cage) used by commercial and backyard producers.
Watch the DVD, “It all starts with an Egg”, and fill in the Egg Production worksheet by listing the features of each method in the table and discuss the advantages and disadvantages. Discuss the issue of sustainability. What efforts do producers make to be sustainable?

**English:** Appreciate the role of Maremma dogs in the production of free-range eggs.

**Maths:** Analyse and graph data regarding egg production.

**Science: The steps in commercial egg preparation from farm to store**
Brainstorm the processes involved in preparing eggs for sale. Record ideas on the board.
Complete the Commercial Egg Preparation Procedure worksheet. Compare the students' efforts with their original ideas and confirm with the teachers copy in the Teachers Help folder.

**Additional Information**

**Note:** oviform - egg shaped solid. ovoid - egg shaped, oval, ellipsoidal.

- Only unfertilised eggs are sold for eating.
- Many mathematical activities are available if you hatch eggs with an incubator e.g. recording the feed and water calculations after hatching, mass of chickens over a number of weeks.
- suitable for the World Poultry Science Association (WPSA) schools competition.

- A collection of egg cartons from a supermarket.
- Book “The Story of Eggs” The Workboot Series Kondinin Group
- DVD “It all starts with an Egg”
- Egg production worksheet
- Maremma Guard Dogs worksheet
- Spreadsheet calculations worksheet
- Preparing eggs for sale. The Story of Eggs - p34.
- Commercial Egg PrepProc worksheet
- DVD ‘Finding the Good Egg: Egg Candling-What to Look For’
- Visual Arts sheet.
Create a class wall chart illustrating the processes. (Group students and allocate one stage to each group. Add computer-generated captions.)

Watch the DVD ‘Finding the Good Egg: Egg Candling - What to Look For’

What happens to the eggs that are rejected during the above process? Make a class display of labels/products which use the rejected eggs from the candling process e.g. mayonnaise.

**Visual Arts:** Activities from the Visual Arts sheet.

### Activity 5 Welfare of Chickens

Students reflect on the responsibilities of caring for animals/chickens. They design and make a model chicken house incorporating safety and comfort requirements. They calculate the costs involved in backyard chicken raising. They appreciate the wide variety of chicken breeds and the developments in commercial egg production.

Display the Breeds poster and discuss the content.

Students use the information on the poster to complete the Chicken Breeds worksheet.

**Brainstorm** the basic requirements and responsibilities when caring for an animal. Develop a list for keeping chickens. *Poultry Agskills: A Practical Guide to Farm Skills, p 29-31.*

Compile a list of people who care for chickens in the egg production industry. Complete the People Who Work in Egg Production worksheet.


**Project:** Read and explain the Design and Make worksheet. Have students design and make a model chicken house as outlined.

**Maths:** Look at the dimensions of chicken pens and complete cost calculations for building a chicken house and pen.

**Reflect** on the benefits and disadvantages of various production methods from Activity 4.

**English:** Read about and discuss issues of animal welfare and what various government agencies are doing to ensure all animals are treated fairly.

Read the Brief History of Egg Production worksheet and complete the questions and timeline.

**Research:** Interview grandparents about their memories of chicken raising when they were young. Report findings and discuss differences.

**Visual Arts:** Rooster painting activity from Visual Arts sheet.

### Activity 6 Eggs in our diet

Students investigate the nutritional value of eggs. They perform calculations involved in buying eggs.

**Science:** Nutrition

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**Additional Information**

- **Research** the invention of modern egg cartons.
- **Chicken Breeds in Australia** poster
- **Book** *Poultry Agskills: A Practical Guide to Farm Skills*, p 29-31
- **Chicken Breeds** worksheet
- **People Who Work in Egg Production** worksheet
- **Chicken House Mathematics** worksheet
- **Brief History Egg Production** worksheet
- **Visual Arts** sheet

**Additional Information**

- Suitable for the World Poultry Science Association (WPSA) schools competition.
- **Food Triangle** poster
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Text</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maths</strong></td>
<td>Solve problems involving purchases and the calculation of change to the nearest five cents with and without digital technologies. (ACMNA080)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>English</strong></td>
<td>Understand how texts vary in complexity and technicality depending on the approach to the topic, the purpose and the intended audience. (ACELA1490)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Science</strong></td>
<td>Living things, including plants and animals, depend on each other and the environment to survive. (ACSSU073)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>English</strong></td>
<td>Plan, draft and publish imaginative, informative and persuasive texts containing key information and supporting details for a widening range of audiences, demonstrating increasing control over text structures and language features. (ACELY1694)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maths</strong></td>
<td>Perform calculations involved in buying eggs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Science</strong></td>
<td>Complete the worksheet “Why Eggs are Good for Us”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>English</strong></td>
<td>Look at recipe format/procedural text using pikelets as an example.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maths</strong></td>
<td>Complete the table in the Eggs in Food worksheet and discuss the findings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Science</strong></td>
<td>Conduct a survey of parents for different boiling egg methods. Look at variations and test results in a class cook off.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maths</strong></td>
<td>Display Card sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Science</strong></td>
<td>Discuss egg allergies in some people and people on a vegan diet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>English</strong></td>
<td>Survey the class for favourite egg based food. Tally and create picture graph of the results.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Science</strong></td>
<td>Make a list of accidents that could occur when cooking eggs e.g. burns, scalds. Compile a list of precautions to be taken.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>English</strong></td>
<td>Look at how often eggs are eaten.</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Science</strong></td>
<td>Brainstorm: List the advantages and disadvantages of setting up a school chicken pen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>English</strong></td>
<td>Students prepare a submission, proposing a school chicken pen and egg production project with a vegetable garden and could involve the parent community, the local community, the school canteen, students and teachers.</td>
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<td><strong>Research</strong></td>
<td>Look on you local council website for their regulations on keeping poultry in your local area. Discuss the reasons for these regulations and why they have become necessary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Brainstorm</strong></td>
<td>Discuss the reasons for these regulations and why they have become necessary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Written Submission</strong></td>
<td>Construct and present a submission (exposition) to the school principal or school council explaining why a chicken pen would be good for the school. This may be an exercise or a genuine request.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Safety issue</strong></td>
<td>Care to be taken when cooking in the classroom – suggest parent helper be considered.</td>
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*Additional Information*

- Eggs in Food **worksheet**
- Why Eggs are Good for Us **worksheet**
- Display Card words
- Pikelets **worksheet**
- Supermarket Eggs **worksheet**

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*Additional Information*

- Poultry CRC [www.poultryhub.org/](http://www.poultryhub.org/)
- Chicken Breeds in Australia **poster**

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*Additional Information*

- Suitable for the World Poultry Science Association (WPSA) schools competition.
Worksheets
Looking at Eggs  

Most of the eggs we eat come from chickens. A female chicken is called a _______. A male is called a ________ or cockerel and the babies are called _______. A young hen is known as a _________. Other eggs that are eaten are quail, duck and goose eggs.

1. What egg colours did you observe in the activity? ______________________

The producers class all eggs that are not white, as brown.

2. What is the most popular egg colour in Australia? ______________________
What is the most popular egg colour in America? ______________________
Is there any difference in the content of eggs with different coloured shells? ______

3. Not all the eggs laid by hens are the same size. Explain why this happens?

4. Some birds lay round eggs and others lay eggs with one very pointy end. The eggs of hens are different. In the box, colour the shape of a hen’s egg brown.

5. Eggs are protected by their hard ___________. This is made up mainly of a type of calcium carbonate called calcite. Shells are rigid but ________________

6. Add the following words to the diagram.
yolk, albumen, shell, air cell, chalaza cord, germinal disc, shell membrane.
Colour the yolk yellow.
7. **Research** the importance of each of the following parts of an egg.

- yolk _______________________________________________________________

- albumen ___________________________________________________________

- shell ______________________________________________________________

- air cell ____________________________________________________________

- chalaza cord _______________________________________________________

- germinal disc _______________________________________________________

- shell membrane ____________________________________________________

8. Complete the drawing to show a **fresh egg** in the bowl of water.

   ![Diagram of egg in water]

   As the egg gets older the air cell gets bigger causing the egg to ______ in a bowl of water however, thin or cracked shells will also cause the egg to rise slightly.

9. **Interesting Egg Facts**

   Which large Australian bird lays big, green eggs? _______________________

   Which bird lays a pale blue egg? _______. Hint: The colour duck egg blue is a popular paint colour.

   Which bird lays the smallest egg? __________________________

   Which New Zealand bird, about the size of a chicken, lays an egg six times the size of a chicken egg? __________
Science Experiments 1

1. Freshness Test
You will need
- eggs
- glass bowl
- water

Instructions
Half fill the bowl with water.
Place the eggs gently in the bowl.

Explanation
The fresh eggs will sink.
Less fresh eggs will float slightly because the air cell becomes larger with age.
Older eggs are still useful for cooking cakes and biscuits.
Rotten eggs however need to be discarded.
This test is only a guide as weak, cracked or light shells can also cause an egg to float.
The use-by date on the carton is the best guide of freshness.

2. Boiled Egg Test
You will need
- boiled egg
- fresh egg
- smooth level surface
- paper towel

Instructions
Mark the boiled egg with a pencil.
Carefully spin the eggs, one at a time.
Observe the difference.
Ask students to suggest reasons for the differences.
Spin the eggs and then put your finger on them to stop them.
Observe what happens when you try to stop the spinning of the eggs.

Explanation
The boiled egg will spin faster. The raw egg will spin slowly. The reason for this has to do with the insides. The boiled egg is one solid piece therefore the whole egg spins in the same direction. The raw egg has liquid inside which moves separately from the shell. The movement of the inside of the raw egg keeps the whole egg from spinning quickly.
When trying to stop the eggs from spinning the boiled egg should stop immediately. The raw egg will keep spinning for a moment because the liquid inside the egg will keep moving.

Have paper towel ready in case of accidents.
Chicken Sayings

Teacher Information

Use the list of chicken sayings to develop activities involving reading, researching, interpreting, illustrating, and oral presentation.

Suggested Activities

1. Students locate their own chicken sayings and present to the class orally, with their meanings.
2. As above, but illustrate in their workbooks.
3. Compile a class list of chicken sayings.
4. Each student is given a number of sayings from the list below, to explain and illustrate in cartoon form. Use A4 or Art paper. Divide the sheet into squares for each illustration. Ask students to write the saying at the bottom of each cartoon.
5. Chicken sayings from other countries could also be researched.
6. Students mime the sayings.

Chicken Sayings

Don’t put all your eggs in the same basket.
Like a chook with its head chopped off.
Don’t count your chickens before they hatch.
Strut your stuff.
Playing chicken.
Chickens come home to roost.
The rooster makes all the noise but the hen rules the roost.
The rooster rules the roost but the hen rules the rooster.
A hen’s party.
Like walking on egg shells.
There’s a pecking order.
Stop preening.
Fine feathered friends.
Fussing like an old hen.
Not all it is cracked up to be.
Feeling cooped up.
When chickens had teeth.
Being clucky.
Can’t boil an egg.

Being cocky.
Wake when the rooster crows.
Strutting around.
He’s a bad egg.
Stop crowing.
No spring chicken.
Nest egg.
Chicken fed.
As scarce as hen’s teeth.
You’ll be left with egg on your face.
Feather your nest.
A feather in your cap.
Cock of the walk.
Don’t brood over it.
Chick flick.
He rules the roost.
Flown the coop.
Like a mother hen.
Stuck in my craw.

Other bird sayings

The early bird gets the worm.
Sing like a bird.
Birds of a feather flock together.
Like water off a duck’s back.
Lovely weather for ducks.
A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.
Measuring Eggs  Name: ____________________

Length
1. Estimate the length of a chicken egg. ________ cm.
2. Estimate the width of a chicken egg. ________ cm.
3. Estimate the height of a chicken egg. ________ cm.

Compare your estimates with another student and revise if necessary.

4. Measure the length of a chicken egg. ________ cm.
5. Measure the width of a chicken egg. ________ cm.
6. Measure the height of a chicken egg. ________ cm.

Mass
7. Use a set of kitchen scales to measure the mass of an egg carton. ________ g.
8. Use a set of kitchen scales to measure the mass of a dozen eggs. ________ g.
9. Estimate the mass of one egg. ________ g. How did you make this estimate?

____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

10. Measure the mass of one egg. ____ g. What was the difference from your estimate? _______ g. Estimate the mass of ½ dozen eggs. ______ g.

Money
11. If a dozen eggs cost $4.80, how would you use a calculator to find the cost of each egg? ______________________
12. If you used 6 eggs to make scrambled eggs, provide two ways the cost of the eggs could be calculated. _____ x _____ = $______ , _____ ÷ _____ = $_____
13. If a recipe used 3 eggs, provide two ways the cost of eggs could be calculated _____ x _____ = $______ , _______ ÷ _______ = $______.
14. If you bought 4 dozen eggs, how much would they cost? __________________
Spelling Activities

Choose the correct word

1. My brown _____________ has a beautiful, long tail. (rabbit, truck, rooster)
2. The _____________ of chickens were scratching in the farmyard. (flock, swarm, herd)
3. The _____________ farmer had lots of chickens. (chairs, poultry, books)
4. I like tiny, fluffy ____________. (chicks, swim, fast)
5. The nest was lined with soft _____________. (wire, lay, feathers)

Word building

Add a prefix or suffix to make new words. (prefixes – un, non) (suffixes - s, es, ed, ing, ly)

e.g. cluck – clucks, clucked, clucking

crow ______________________________________________________________________

scratch ______________________________________________________________________
crow ______________________________________________________________________
roost ______________________________________________________________________
lay ______________________________________________________________________

Sentence writing

Write each of the following words in sentences that show you understand their meaning.

organic _____________________________________________________________________

healthy ___________________________________________________________________

mature ____________________________________________________________________
domestic __________________________________________________________________

speckled ____________________

Scrambled Words

Unscramble the following words from List 5

cfnnee _________ durga _________ ofrol _________ hggtnili _________ aroetdrp _________

Silent Letters

Comb has a silent “b”. Write five other words that have a silent ‘b’ as the last letter.

1. _______________ 2. _______________ 3. _______________

4. _______________ 5. _______________ N.B. Not from the lists.

Riddles

Choose five words from the list and write a simple riddle for each one. Read to the class who write down their correctly spelt answer

Who am I?

I have a beautiful long tail.
I wake the chickens up in the morning.
I do not lay eggs.

Who am I?

Who am I?

I live in a large, cosy barn.
I laid my first egg today.
The hens clucked loudly.

Who am I?
Alphabetical order
Write your spelling words in alphabetical order, along the lines. One list only.
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

Dictionary Meanings
Use a dictionary to find the meanings of the words in **bold** in the spelling lists.
pullet _______________________________________________________________________
scavenger ___________________________________________________________________
moult ______________________________________________________________________
broody ______________________________________________________________________
organic ______________________________________________________________________

Word families
Write five words ending in ‘atch’ as in hatch.
________________________________________________________________________________

Word Usage
Write sentences using these words correctly. **lay, laying and laid.**
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

Spelling Rules /Generalisations
There are many of these. Work through your list or address those your class is having
difficulties with.

Homophones
Underline the correct word from those in the brackets.
The clever hen found a way (threw, through) the barnyard fence.
The farmer had to (saw, sore) the (bored, board) for the new coop.
The egg is graded by (weight, wait) before it is put in the carton.
The wheat fed to chickens is a (serial, cereal).

Homonyms
Write the correct words on the line. (breed, crows, wattle)
This ______ of chicken will _______ next spring.
When that rooster ________, he is louder than all the _________ sitting in the tree.
The hen under the ____________ tree has a bright, red ______________.

Synonyms
Words with similar meanings such as big / large. Write synonyms from the lists for
chook ____________, rooster ____________, spotty ____________, group ____________.
yard ____________, tame ____________, cluck ____________, pen ____________. 
Antonyms

Words with the opposite meaning such as big / small. Write antonyms from the lists for
black __________, old ______________, sick ____________, immature ____________
inorganic ______________, hen __________, free-range ____________.

Spelling Bingo

Children write ten words from the class list on a piece of paper. A time limit is set. The teacher calls out words from the list, and children underline the word if it is on their list. When they have ten words they call out, Bingo. The words are checked and if all are correct, the person is declared the winner and can call out the next list for the class.

Word Basketball

Divide the class into two groups. Provide a bucket and a soft ball. Line the teams up facing each other with the bucket at an appropriate distance from the ‘in team’. The teacher reads a List word out and the first played spells it. If correct, student throws the ball into the bucket. If they are successful, the team gets a point and the teacher continues. Swap teams so everyone has a turn.

Word Baseball

Baseball is played in a similar way using three bases and a pitcher. The pitcher calls out the List words. If correct, the player moves to first base.

Wall List

Write the weekly list or theme words and place on a wall in the class. Encourage the children to add relevant words to the list as they arise during their activities.

Word Lists

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>List 1</th>
<th>List 2</th>
<th>List 3</th>
<th>List 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>chicken</td>
<td>cluck</td>
<td>colour</td>
<td>protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rooster</td>
<td>crow</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>production</td>
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<tr>
<td>cockerel</td>
<td>scratch</td>
<td>yellow</td>
<td>industry</td>
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<td>pullet</td>
<td>ruffle</td>
<td>speckled</td>
<td>chemical</td>
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<td>poultry</td>
<td>roost</td>
<td>brown</td>
<td>production</td>
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<td>flock</td>
<td>moult</td>
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<td>lay</td>
<td>mature</td>
<td>oviparous</td>
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<td>hatch</td>
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<tr>
<td>feather</td>
<td>broody</td>
<td>domestic</td>
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<table>
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<td>dozen</td>
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<td>bantam</td>
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<td>package</td>
<td>nutrition</td>
<td>cackle</td>
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<tr>
<td>scavenger</td>
<td>label</td>
<td>standard</td>
<td>coop</td>
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<tr>
<td>predator</td>
<td>storage</td>
<td>behaviour</td>
<td>comfort</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Sink or Float
Will an egg sink or float in normal water? What effect will salt have?

**You will need**
salt
tablespoon
2 clear glasses
warm water
2 raw eggs

**Instructions**
Place the two glasses of warm water on a table. Add about 10 heaped tablespoons of salt to one of the glasses and stir until the salt is dissolved in the water.
Place an egg in each glass and observe what happens. The egg in the normal water will sink to the bottom while the egg in the salt water will float to the top.

Expand on the experiment by mixing the two types of water. Remove the eggs from the glasses. Empty about half of the salt water. Then pour the plain water into the salt water cup up to the amount the glass had before. Place the egg in the cup. The egg will float in the middle of the cup.

Make the egg rise to the top again by removing the water. With the egg still in the glass, begin slowly removing the water a spoonful at a time. The egg will rise higher and higher as each spoonful is removed.

**Explanation**
The egg in salt water floats to the top while the egg in normal water sinks to the bottom. The egg floats in salt water because of density. Salt water is denser than the egg thereby causing the egg to rise to the top. The egg is denser than normal water, though, which is why it sinks to the bottom when in the cup of normal water.

2. Egg in a Squeeze
Can you get an egg through the neck of a bottle without breaking it?

**You will need**
small glass bottle
matches
paper
peeled hard-boiled egg

**Instructions**
Scrunch up the paper and push it into the neck of the bottle.
Turn the bottle upside down and ask an adult to light the paper.
Stand the paper upright as the paper burns.
Quickly place the peeled, hard-boiled egg into the neck of the bottle, with the pointy end down, and watch what happens.

**Explanation**
The burning paper heats the air inside the bottle, which expands and some escapes past the egg. When the paper stops burning the air remaining inside the bottle cools, lowering the air pressure inside the bottle. The higher air pressure outside the bottle, forces the egg through the neck and into the bottle.
3. Bouncing Eggs
Can you make an egg bounce?

You will need
2 fresh eggs
2 glasses
water
white vinegar
glass bowl

Instructions
Put an egg in a glass of water. Put the other egg in a different glass filled with vinegar. After three hours see if you can notice a difference between the eggs. The egg in the water should look the same while the egg in the vinegar will have changed. Touch the egg in the vinegar to see how it feels. The shell will feel soft like a water-filled balloon. Leave both eggs in their glasses for seven days. After that time, take the egg out of the vinegar. Check to make sure the shell has completely dissolved. The egg should feel leathery. Wash the egg with water. Let the egg dry completely for a day or two. When the egg is dry see how high you can bounce it before it breaks.

Explanation
When the eggshell comes in contact with the vinegar, a chemical reaction takes place. The vinegar (an acid) reacts with the calcium carbonate of the shell, making it soften and, over time, disappear. This process is called decalcification. The egg in water does not change.

4. Weight Lifting
Predict how many books eggs will support before they break.

You will need
3 eggs
newspaper
a stack of books
knife
paper towel

Instructions
Lay several sheets of newspaper flat on a tabletop. Position two of the eggs in the middle of the newspaper so that they are a few centimetres apart. Now lay one of the books on top of the eggs. Continue placing books on top of the eggs until the eggs crack. Record the number of books supported. Now gently crack the remaining egg with the knife so that the egg is in two nearly-equal parts. Clean the yolk out of the shell halves. Spread clean newspaper on the tabletop. Sit the egg halves upright in the middle of the newspaper a few centimetres apart. Now lay a book on top of the eggs. Keep placing books on top of the eggs until the shells crack. Was there a difference in the number of eggs supported? Were you surprised by the strength of the eggshells?

Explanation
The curved shape of eggshells distributes the weight of the book over the entire egg so it is able to support more weight than a single point could.
Factual Recount (Experiment)

Aim: *(What are we trying to find out?)*
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

Method Recount: *(What did we have to do?)*
____________________________________________________________________
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Results: *(What did we see?)*
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Conclusion: *(What did we find out?)*
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
Life Cycle of a Chicken
Cut out the pictures and use them to create a chicken lifecycle in the box below. You will need to draw some arrows.

Lifecycle of a Chicken
Name: __________________
Hatching Chickens Naturally and in an Incubator

Under natural conditions chickens live for 8-10 years. To live a full and healthy life they need the correct environmental conditions to breed, grow and produce eggs. A rooster and a hen are needed to produce fertile eggs. In early spring a hen may start to go broody (clucky) and lay a batch of 12-15 eggs. After about 21 days the chicks hatch from the eggs. During the incubation period the hen provides all the environmental conditions needed to hatch the eggs. During this time she only leaves the nest for food and water.

Hatching eggs in an incubator either in the backyard or in commercial situations requires humans to provide the correct environmental conditions – temperature, humidity (an amount of moisture in the air), light, ventilation and movement. There is a lot of science and technology employed to imitate the natural process of hatching eggs. What a marvel a hen is!
Temperature and Time

Name: ______________

When **hatching** eggs the temperature should be kept constant at about 37-38°C. After 21 days the chicks hatch. After the chicks hatch the temperature in the incubator should be kept at 33°C for the first week and reduced 0.5°C a day until it reaches 24°C. When hatched naturally, the hen keeps the eggs/chicks warm.

The chickens grow for about 20 weeks and then the pullets start to lay eggs. They usually lay eggs for about 50 weeks and then producers may induce a moult (a period where no eggs are laid and old feathers are replaced) by changing their diet and reducing the amount of light for 2-4 weeks. When a full diet and lighting is returned the hens start laying again. Under natural conditions hens live for 8-10 years.

**Tasks**

1. Use a scale of 1cm = 5 weeks to show a graph of the first year or so of the life of a chicken. The first entry has been completed for you.

   ![Graph of chicken life stages](image)

   **Chicken in egg**

   **Chicken hatches**

   **Weeks**

2. Use the information above to draw a line graph of the temperature requirements of eggs and baby chickens on the axes below.

   **Temperature Requirements for Eggs and Chicks**

   ![Graph of temperature requirements](image)

   **Temperature °C**

   **Days**
Egg Production Worksheet  
Name ___________________

1. Where does your family buy their eggs? Circle the answer.
   - a supermarket, a small shop, organic food store, a farm, your family farm

2. What are the three main types of eggs that people buy from a supermarket?

3. What information is on the labels of the egg cartons?

4. Explain why some people prefer the following eggs.
   - Organic _____________________________________________
   - Omega 3 ____________________________________________
   - Vegetarian __________________________________________

5. Watch the DVD “It All Starts With An Egg” and add the information to the table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barn Laid Eggs</th>
<th>Disadvantages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advantages</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Free-range Eggs</th>
<th>Disadvantages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advantages</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cage Eggs</th>
<th>Disadvantages</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advantages</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

What efforts do producers make to be sustainable? ____________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

Activity 4  
English
Maremma Guard Dogs

Name ____________________________

Read the information below and answer the questions.

The tall, white dogs in with a flock of free-range chickens are not family pets. They are Maremmas, a breed of dog, from the mountains of Italy, bred to protect herds of sheep and goats against wolves, lions and bears. They have been used as livestock guard dogs for hundreds of years.

Maremmas were introduced into Australia in 1982, and are now used to protect free-range chickens, and other farm animals, against wild dogs, dingoes and hawks. These dogs are trained to bond with the animals they protect and live outside with them at all times. They are fed in the yard and become very attached to the animals they guard. They can appear inactive during the day but this changes during the night when they prowl and bark out warnings to any intruder. Although they are given kennels or sheds to sleep in, like most dogs they do not like storms and have been known to take shelter with their owners during violent thunderstorms.

Maremmas do not make good pets in suburban areas, as they need lots of space for exercise, and commands like, ‘sit, stay, drop and down’ do not interest them. Known for being wary and aloof, they respond well to praise but only give a cuddle when they want to. They have a long, thick coat that needs brushing regularly.

Many people are using these amazing dogs to help keep their farm animals safe from a range of predators. If you look at some very old paintings of shepherds and their flocks, you can often find a Maremma in those artworks.

Questions
1. What is special about Maremmas? ____________________________

2. In which country were Maremmas first bred as livestock guard dogs? ____________________________

3. When are they most active? ____________________________

4. Which one of the predators would only worry chickens in the daytime? ________
5. Name three animals that prey on livestock. ____________________________

6. Write the meaning of the following words that are used in this report.
   a. livestock _________________________________________________________
   b. bond ____________________________________________________________
   c. free-range _______________________________________________________ 
   d. suburban _________________________________________________________
   e. predators _________________________________________________________
   f. aloof ____________________________________________________________

7. Not all free-range chicken producers use Maremmas to guard their chickens.
   Name other ways chicken producers keep their animals safe. ____________________________

8. Circle other animals that might be a problem for chicken producers in Australia.
   mice, sharks, rats, cats, goannas, tigers, sheep, snakes, crows

9. What is it about storms that some animals and people do not like?

Draw two Maremma in a paddock with a flock of chickens, a shed and some food containers.
Commercial Egg Preparation Procedures

Form groups of three. Cut out the nine processes in the preparation of eggs for sale. Give three processes to each person in the group. As a group, place the processes into order.

- **Washing and Re-oiling**: Eggs are cleaned and re-oiled to keep them fresh.
- **Grading by weight**: Eggs are weighed and sorted into different sizes and packed.
- **Quality Testing**: Egg white and yolk are tested for quality.
- **Refrigerated trucks deliver eggs from the farm.**
- **Suction heads move eggs to conveyer**: Suction heads pick up the eggs and place them on the conveyor belt.
- **Stamping**: Some grading rooms stamp eggs to identify the farm of origin.
- **Egg white and yolk are tested for quality.**
- **Eggs are cleaned and re-oiled to keep them fresh.**
- **Eggs are weighed and sorted into different sizes and packed.**
- **Eggs are stored in a coolroom until graded and packed.**
- **Eggs are put in cartons with a ‘use-by date’ before storage and distribution to retailers.**

---

Activity 4

Poultry Industry Teaching Resource
## Egg Production Spreadsheet

The class spreadsheet of income and expenses for the month is given below. Use the spreadsheet to answer the questions on the following page.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Eggs</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Income</th>
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<td>Item</td>
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<tr>
<td>2-Oct</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-Oct</td>
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**Total**  
564

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<tr>
<td>Dozen</td>
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<td>Profit</td>
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</table>
Spreadsheet Questions

Name: ___________________

1. For which month of the year has data been provided? ________________

2. How many eggs were collected on the 19th day of the month? __________

3. How many eggs were collected for the month? ______

4. Circle the operation that was used to calculate the total number of eggs collected for the month. addition, subtraction, multiplication, division

5. How many dozen eggs were collected for the month? _____

6. Circle the operation that was used to calculate the number of dozens of eggs collected for the month. addition, subtraction, multiplication, division

7. Circle the operation that was used to calculate the income from the sale of eggs each day. addition subtraction multiplication division

8. What was the total income from the sale of eggs for the month? $_______

9. What was the total cost of feed for the month? $_______

10. How much profit was made from the sale of eggs for the month? $_______

11. Circle the operation that was used to calculate the profit from the sale of eggs. addition subtraction multiplication division

12. How many eggs were unsold at the end of the month? ________________

13. Use the data in the spreadsheet to make a column graph of the eggs collected for the month.

Eggs Collected for ________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Eggs</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
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</table>
Chicken Breeds  Name: ______________

Reading for Information Activity.
Use the information on the CRC Poster, Chicken Breeds in Australia, to answer the following questions.

1. What are the two major classifications of chickens?
   a. ________________________________  b. ________________________________

2. Explain the differences in the feathers of the two main breed types.
   ________________________________  ________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________

3. There are bantams that have been developed as ____________________ types of large breeds and those that are _______________ or unique breeds.

4. Commercial breeds have been developed to optimise either ___________ or ___________ production. Name the three main breeds in each group.
   Group 1 _____________________________________________________________
   Group 2 _____________________________________________________________

5. Write three features of both layer hens and broilers.
   Layer hens _____________________________________________________________
   Broilers _____________________________________________________________

6. Traditionally game birds were breed for ________________________________.

7. Cock fighting is illegal in many countries now, so why do people keep game fowl?
   ____________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________

8. Rare breeds: match the description with the breed.

   Houdan  Araucana  Frizzle  Cochin  Hamburgh

   blue shelled eggs, fast growers, odd looking
   lay many small, white eggs, sometimes called Everlayer, active and flighty, good flyers
   red eyes, outward curling feathers, gentle nature
   enormous amounts of feathers, calm, good pets, heavily feathered legs mean they require short grassed areas, originated in China
   five toes on each foot, V-shaped comb divided into two parts like butterfly wings, calm, placid nature
9. Two breeds, the __________________________ and the __________________________ have feathered legs.

10. Which two breeds are obviously bred in Australia? __________________________

11. a. Name two breeds suitable for cold climates. __________________________
    b. Name two breeds suitable for warm climates. __________________________

12. Name two crested breeds. ____________________________________________

13. Silkies are popular with adults and children as pet birds. Give reasons for this.
   ______________________________________________________________________

14. If you were setting up your own backyard chicken pen with six hens (enough for eggs for four people), which hens would you choose? __________________________

15. Give at least three reasons why a particular breed appeals to you. You can have a mix of breeds. ______________________________________________________
    ______________________________________________________________________
    ______________________________________________________________________
    ______________________________________________________________________

16. On the map of the world, put the number on the country these birds came from originally. Use the information on the poster for this task.
A Brief History of Egg Production

The first domestic fowl were brought to Australia onboard the First Fleet in 1788. Over a period of years, the original flock of chickens, turkeys, geese, and ducks increased in number. It wasn’t long before people in towns and on farms were keeping their own chickens as they provided eggs, feathers and meat. Ducks, turkeys and geese were also kept. In time, guinea fowl and pheasants were introduced.

As time went by a commercial egg farming industry developed. Until the 1950’s, chickens were kept in sheds and had access to a yard with high fences that kept foxes out. Flock numbers ranged from hundreds to a few thousand. In cities and towns it was convenient to buy eggs at the local shop and store them in the fridge. Keeping chickens in backyards became less popular. Local councils introduced regulations to set limits on the number of chickens that could be kept and the distance a pen could be from neighbouring dwellings. In country areas chicken yards remained popular.

In the 1960’s, layer cages were introduced and the number of commercial chicken farms increased. In the late 1970’s, sheds that could house up to 100,000 layer hens in multiple layers of cages were common. Eventually some farms housed 500,000 hens in cages. New developments and changing attitudes to how animals were treated caused people to consider changes to the way they farmed. As a result, in 2001 regulations were introduced to set limits on the number of hens in each cage. Today, cage egg production remains the most popular form of production. Free-range and barn laid egg production methods are increasing in number as a response to consumer demand and producer preference. Concerns for the environment and sustainable production practices have also led to changes in the way that waste products are disposed of and disease is managed.

With an increasing interest in organic and home-grown food, keeping backyard chickens continues to be popular with many people. They are great for eating kitchen scraps and garden pests. Scratching among the fruit trees and vegetables they quickly find beetles, bugs and grubs to eat. Used straw from nest areas, mixed with their manure, can be used as garden mulch. To make sure they are getting all the necessary nutrients, they are also fed grain. With such an interesting variety of chicken breeds available, keeping chickens can be a worthwhile, enjoyable activity for the family.

Questions  True or false.

- There were no domestic fowl on the ships of the First Fleet. true false
- The early settlers had no use for chickens or ducks. true false
- In the 1950’s commercial chicken farming was developing. true false
- People have to protect their chickens from foxes. true false
- Free-range eggs are not produced in Australia. true false
- Local council regulations do have to be followed. true false
- Health and welfare issues only apply to the health on humans. true false
- Backyard growers can use manure from the chickens on their gardens. true false
- Chickens are omnivores. true false
- People can keep chickens in their backyard for egg production. true false
Follow up Activities.

1. **Timeline.** Create a timeline by first highlighting the dates or time references in the passage. Record the dates and relevant information in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Development</th>
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2. **Sustainability.** Use a dictionary to find a definition of sustainability.

____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

Discuss concerns about sustainability in the egg production industry and what producers are doing to minimise the impact on the environment. Organic egg production is one example. What other developments are taking place.
People Who Work in Egg Production
There are many people involved in each part of the egg production industry. Some are listed below. Can you match their title with their correct description? The completed information could be used as role play cards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Egg producer</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Researcher</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Veterinarian</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nutritionists</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Market Managers</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Breeders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health and Welfare</td>
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</table>
These people help to make sure all chickens are kept in conditions that are not stressful or harmful. Their aim is to ensure the hens are not treated cruelly and are able to do the things they like to do. They ensure that hens are housed according to regulations set by the Australian Egg Industry and ensure disease prevention is enforced.

When a product is sold to consumers, there is a need to advertise so that people are attracted to that product. Developing eye-catching cartons, catchy slogans and advertisements is the job of this group of people.
Designing and Making Activity

Teacher Information for designing and making a model of a chicken house with a fenced area for a small flock of chickens.

1. Brainstorming activity to list what is needed when you build chicken housing. The safety and comfort of the chickens has to be taken into account. Consideration needs to be given to their protection from wind, rain, heat, cold, draughts and predators. They need space for walking, scratching, feeding, resting, roosting and laying eggs. Hen houses can be portable or fixed.

2. Make a list on the board, smart board or other. Check with the list given in Poultry Agskills: A Practical Guide to Farm Skills, p 31

3. If the project is to be used as an assessment task, let the children know what aspects will be assessed e.g. suitability of design, all requirements included, suitable materials used, realistic.

4. Decide on a size requirement depending on display space available in the classroom and time limit for the project.

5. Brainstorm a list of materials for making a model. Recycle whenever possible. If necessary suggest paddle pop sticks, balsa off cuts, strong cardboard, mesh (onion bags), string, bottle caps.

6. Discuss any other issues that arise.

7. Design the house on paper first. This is an important step of the project and could be done at school or as homework.

8. Collect materials and build the model either at home or in class.

9. Completed model and design are displayed, admired and assessed.

10. The students could:
   • give an oral presentation explaining the features of their work,
   • photograph their construction progress and write an explanation to be included with the completed model,
   • photograph their work and display, with their explanation, in the school newsletter or on the school website.

Name __________________________ Date due. _____________________

Instructions Design and make a chicken house with a fenced area for a small flock of chickens.
The safety and comfort of the chickens has to be taken into account. Consideration needs to be given to their protection from wind, rain, heat, cold, draughts and predators. They need space for walking, scratching, feeding, roosting, resting and laying eggs. Hen houses can be portable or fixed. Refer to class list for requirements.
Prepare a design on paper first, and then make a small model using your design. Include an explanation and photographs.
The plan of a class chook pen and house is provided. Show your working on the back of the page or in your workbook.

1. What is the area of the chicken house? _______ m²
2. What is the area of the chicken pen? _______ m²
3. What is the perimeter of the chicken house? _______ m
4. What is the approximate diameter of the bins? _____ m
5. What is the length of the fence around the chicken pen? Do not include the chicken house wall. _______ m
6. Wire costs $3.75 per metre. The cost of wire for the fence = $_________
7. Posts cost $12.80 each. If 10 posts are needed, the cost of posts = $_________
8. If a gate costs $45, the cost of materials for the fence = $_________
9. Labour is $27.50 per hour. If 7 hours are needed, the cost of labour = $_________
10. The total cost of building the fence = $_________
11. Nest boxes are 30cm wide, how many fit along the 3m wall of the house? ______
12. If 2 rows of boxes are provided at $2.65 each, the cost of nest boxes = $_______
13. If the cost of 2 roosts is $5.60, what is the cost of each roost? $_______
14. If 24 pullets were bought for $84, what was the cost of each pullet? $_______
15. The roosts are placed along the 4m wall. How many pullets roost per metre? _____
16. If 7 litres of fresh water is provided each day. Each pullet drinks about ______ml
17. A 20kg bag of food is bought each week. Each pullet eats about ______g a day?
18. If the cost of each bag is $18, each pullet costs about $_______ a month to feed.
19. On average 18 eggs are collected a day. If eggs are sold to the canteen for $3 a dozen, what is the approximate income for the month? $_________
Word Search Close

Colour the answers in the grid. Answers can go up, down diagonally, left and right. Write the answers in the sentences below.

1. The __________ used its egg tooth to crack open the egg shell.
2. There are a __________ eggs in a carton.
3. The proud __________ strutted around the farmyard.
4. The __________ farmer had chickens, ducks and geese.
5. After a few weeks the young chicks develop __________.
6. The sick hen’s _______ was flopping to the side.
7. When a chicken sits on a batch of eggs it is said to be __________.
8. Chickens have grit in their ________ to help them digest food.
9. The largest part of an egg is __________.
10. Foxes are major __________ for backyard and free-range chickens.
11. The process of __________ involves using a light to see inside eggs.
12. Farmers use an __________ to hatch large numbers of eggs.
13. Young female chickens are called __________.
14. Who am I? I am a dog that guards a flock of chickens. Answer: __________
15. An __________ fence is often used to help protect chickens from predators.
Eggs in Food

It is surprising how often we incorporate eggs in our diet. Sometimes it is obvious and other times it is not so obvious. All of the foods below can contain eggs. For example, meat pies may have eggs in the pastry and tempura batter can contain eggs.

In the table, write the following foods beneath the meal in which you would normally eat them.

Circle the foods that you have eaten in the last week.

boiled eggs  baked custard  biscuits  pikelets  lemon delicious pudding
meat pie  egg sandwich  egg salad  ice-cream  rissoles  fried eggs
crumbed cutlets  chocolate cake  prawns in tempura batter  meringue
scrambled eggs  cheese soufflé  egg and bacon pie  slices  pavlova
frittata  poached eggs  sponge cake  bacon quiche  fruit buns  omelette
cheesecake  battered fish  mayonnaise  lasagne  cup cakes  egg custard
crepes  lamingtons  meatballs

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<tr>
<th>Breakfast</th>
<th>Morning Tea</th>
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<th>Afternoon Tea</th>
<th>Dinner</th>
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Why Eggs Are Good For Us

Read the passage several times, then fill in the missing words on the lines. Read again to make sure it makes sense.

There are many reasons why eggs are an important part of our diet. Eggs are natural, nutritious and delicious. They contain lots of protein, and many _______ and vitamins. Our bodies need protein to _______ and repair the cells that make up _______ skin, hair, nails, teeth, muscles and organs. _______ plays an important part in helping our _______ function and grow normally. Eggs contain all _______ vitamins we need, except vitamin C, which is _______ in fruit and vegetables. One of the _______ important minerals found in eggs is iron. _______ is used to carry oxygen in the _______ and to produce energy. Some eggs have _______ omega 3s added, and others, have extra minerals _______. This is a trend to make eggs _______ more attractive to consumers. Some people are _______ to eggs and others with cholesterol problems _______ not eat eggs. However for most people eggs are a safe and nutritious part of their diet.

Missing Words

our, minerals, body, extra, allergic, Protein, added, build, the, most, blood, even, Iron, found, do

Egg Storage - spelling activity

Circle the incorrect word and write the correctly spelt word on the line. There is one mistake in each line.

To make sure eggs stay as fresh as possible for as long as possible, place _______ them in there carton in the refrigerator. They are packed with the pointed _______ end down, to protect the yolk and prevent damage to the air sell. The cartons _______ are designed too slow down moisture loss and prevent eggs absorbing strong _______ smells from other foods in the fridge threw the pores in their shells. A boiled _______ egg, in the shell can be stored in an airtight container in the refrigerator four _______ up to three days.

Cooking with Eggs - punctuation activity

Eggs are easy to cook and can be used in many different ways. Eggs can be boiled, fried, poached, coddled, baked, scrambled and made into omelettes. They can also be mixed with other ingredients to make cakes, biscuits, custards, quiches, pavlovas, pancakes, sauces and many more things that we like to eat every day. Beaten eggs can be used to coat fried foods such as fish and to hold the meat of rissoles and meatballs together. Beaten eggs are also used to put a shiny glaze on buns and sweet breads. Bakers and food manufacturers also use eggs.

What are your three favourite egg dishes – give reasons? If you do not eat eggs, explain why? Answer in sentences and use correct punctuation and spelling.
Pikelets

Name: ____________________

Ingredients
1 cup self raising flour 1 egg
a pinch of salt 2 tablespoons of melted butter
2 tablespoons sugar Extra butter for frying
¼ cup teaspoon of bicarbonate of soda
1 cup of milk (with 1 teaspoon of vinegar added)

Method
Sift the flour, salt, sugar and soda into a bowl.
In another bowl, beat the egg with the milk and melted butter.
Using a wooden spoon, make a well in the centre of the flour mixture.
Add the egg mixture to the well and stir gently.
Draw the flour in from the sides as you stir.
Batter should be slightly lumpy.
Grease and heat a heavy-based frypan for a short time.
Put tablespoons of the batter onto the pan.
Cook until bubbly on top and brown underneath.
Turn to brown on the other side.
Transfer to a plate and cover with a clean tea towel until ready to eat.
Serve with butter and golden syrup, honey or jam.
Makes about 10.

Activities
a. Circle the correct text type
   information report, explanation, discussion, procedure, narrative, recount

b. Underline all the verbs in the recipe.

c. What do you notice about the position of the verbs in the lines? ________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

d. Which description best fits this text type?

Lots of interesting adjectives and adverbs to add interest
A complicated plot with a variety of characters
A list of requirements and clear instructions without unnecessary detail
A series of events recalled in correct sequence

_____________________________________________________________________________

e. Name other examples of this text type. ______________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________
f. Find words or phrases that describe:

place ____________________________

in what manner ____________________________

time ____________________________

g. Use the same text type, to describe how you would make pikelets (or a dish of your choosing, preferably with one or more eggs.)

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

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____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

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____________________________________________________________________
Supermarket Eggs  
Name: ______________________

Show your working for each problem.

1. What is the cost of 3 doz. 700g barn laid eggs? _______________ = $_______

2. Cost of one egg from 1 doz. 700g cage eggs? _______________ = $_______

3. What is the approximate mass of each egg in a 10 pack of 550g eggs?
____________________ = _______g

4. What is the approximate mass of each egg in a 1 doz. carton of 700g eggs?
____________________ = _______g

5. What is the cost of 1 doz. ecco-eggs? ______________________ = $_______

6. What is the difference in cost when buying 1 doz. 600g cage eggs and 1 doz. 600g free-range eggs? _______________ = $_______

7. For a BBQ 2 doz. 600g free-range eggs and 1 doz. 700g free-range eggs were bought. What was the total cost of eggs? _______________ = $_______

8. A cake recipe needed 3 eggs. If ecco-eggs were used, what was the cost of the eggs? ______________________ = $_______

9. If your family bought 1 doz. barn laid eggs each week for a year, what is the total cost? _______________ = $_______

10. It costs a farmer $0.95 to produce 1 doz. 700g cage eggs. If the farmer sells eggs to the supermarket for $2.40 a dozen, how much profit does the farmer make? _______________ = $_______.
    How much profit does the supermarket make? _______________ = $_______.

11. A pallet has 8 boxes of eggs and each box has 10 1 doz. cartons of eggs. How many eggs are on the pallet? _______________ = _______ eggs.

12. **Extension (Use a calculator)** Which is the best value, 1 doz 600g cage eggs or 1 doz. 700g cage eggs? _______________, _______________.
    Answer _______________
Library Research
# Library Research Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Check</th>
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</table>
| 1        | Use a dictionary to find the meaning of the words below:<br>
   *comb, wattle, fowl, clutch, poultry, domestic, consumer, producer, gizzard, free-range*<br>
   **Extension:** vegetarian, oviparous, omnivore, herbivore<br>
   Provide your answers on the worksheet provided. | Student<br>Teacher |
| 2        | Use an *encyclopaedia, reference book* or the *Internet* to find information on one of the birds in the list:<br>
   *turkeys, ducks, geese, quail, pheasant or guinea fowl*<br>
   Read the information and find key words. | Student<br>Teacher |
| 3        | Write an *Information Report* on the worksheet provided using the key words from the previous activity. Include a diagram or an illustration. | Student<br>Teacher |
| 4        | **Children’s Books**<br>
   Search your school library for a picture book about chickens. Borrow the book, practice reading it then arrange to read it to a younger student at your school, a class member or the whole class. Have some questions ready to ask your listeners. | Student<br>Teacher |
| 5        | **Eggs and Art**<br>
   Use reference materials to find information on one of the following:<br>
   *Art and Tempera paint, Fabergé Eggs, Eggs and Easter, The Tradition of Decorated Eggs*<br>
   Write your information on the worksheet provided and plan the layout of your presentation page. | Student<br>Teacher |
| 6        | Publish the information gathered in Activity 5 in a suitable format on an A4 page. This is to be part of an *art display* so illustrate your work artistically. | Student<br>Teacher |
Library Research: Activity 1

comb ____________________________________________________________
wattle __________________________________________________________
fowl ____________________________________________________________
clutch __________________________________________________________
poultry _________________________________________________________
domestic ________________________________________________________
consumer ________________________________________________________
producer _________________________________________________________
gizzard _________________________________________________________
free-range ________________________________________________________
vegetarian ________________________________________________________
oviparous ________________________________________________________
omnivore _________________________________________________________
herbivore _________________________________________________________

Find these words (and others) in the grid below

d e l t t a w a s h e l l g c
u g i z z a r d i c e t t o o
 c n t c h i c e n r r a m o n
k a t e r o v i n m o b u s s
0 r z s u o r a p i v o g e u
v e g e t a r i a n i f s g m
i e b y r t l u o p b z o t e
p r e p r o d u c e r t z w r
l f o w o m c i t s e m o d l
t r y l f c l u t c h e n e h
Library Research: Activity 2

Name of bird: ____________________________

Keywords: Read the information and write only the keywords (important words) in the correct sections.

Classification (What is it?)

____________________________________________________________________

Description (What does it look like?)

size - ________________________________________________________________

colours - ____________________________________________________________

feathers - ____________________________________________________________

legs - ________________________________________________________________

head features - ________________________________________________________

Movement (How does it move?)

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

Food (What does it eat?)

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

Habitat (Where does it live?)

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

Breeding habits (nest, number of eggs)

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

Extra Information (interesting facts)

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

References

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________
Library Research: Activity 3

Write an Information Report on your chosen bird. Use the keywords from your research to construct sentences and paragraphs. Use a heading and subheadings.
Library Research: Activity 5/6 - Art and Eggs

Title: ___________________________________________

Introduction
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Body
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Conclusion
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Wall Display Design

In the box to the right, plan the layout of your design. Show the placement of illustrations and text. The page can be portrait or landscape. The text can wrap around illustrations. Be imaginative!!
Teacher Information
Why Eggs Are Good For Us

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Egg Storage – spelling activity

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Cooking with Eggs – punctuation activity

Eggs are easy to cook and can be used in many different ways. Eggs can be boiled, fried, poached, coddled, baked, scrambled and made into omelettes. They can also be mixed with other ingredients to make cakes, biscuits, custards, quiches, pavlovas, pancakes, sauces and many more things that we like to eat every day. Beaten eggs are used to coat fried foods such as fish and to hold the meat of rissoles and meatballs together. Beaten eggs are also used to put shiny glaze on buns and sweet breads. Bakers and food manufacturers also use eggs.

Look for correct sentences, punctuation and spelling. Also look for the complexity of the expression.
Answers to Mathematics Worksheets

Measuring Eggs
1. & 4. Approx 5cm or 50mm
2. & 5. Approx 4cm or 40mm
3. & 6. Approx 4cm or 40mm
4. 50-60g
8. 600 or 700g
9. 45 – 55g
10. (mass of eggs – mass of carton) ÷ 12 or similar
11. 4.80 ÷ 12 =
12. 0.40 x 6 = $2.40 and $4.80 ÷ 2 = $2.40
13. 0.40 x 3 = $1.20 and $4.80 ÷ 4 = $1.20
14. $4.80 x 4 = $19.20

Supermarket Eggs
1. 3 x $4.92 = $14.76
2. $4.68 ÷ 12 = $0.39
3. 550 ÷ 10 = 55g
4. 700 ÷ 12 = 58-60g
5. $3.96 x 2 = $7.92
6. $5.88 - $4.08 = $1.80
7. 2 x $5.88 + $6.24 = $18
8. $3.96 ÷ 2 = $1.98
9. $4.92 x 52 = $255.84
10. Farmer: $2.40 - $0.95 = $1.45 per dozen  Supermarket: $4.68 - $2.40 = $2.28
11. 8 x 10 x 12 = 960 eggs
12. 600g eggs: 408/600 = 0.68 cents/g  700g eggs: 468÷700 =0.668 cents/g
   Therefore 700g eggs are slightly better value by weight.

Temperature and Time
1. 

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Chicken in egg  Chick/Pullet  Laying eggs  Moultimg

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<th>0</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>10</th>
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Chicken hatches

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Weeks
Spreadsheet Calculations
1. October
2. 21
3. 564
4. Addition
5. 47
6. Division
7. Multiplication
8. $138
9. $72
10. $66
11. Subtraction
12. 1 dozen or 12
13. Eggs Collected for October
Chook Pen Mathematics
1. 12m²
2. 6x6-4x1 = 32 or 6x5+2x1 = 32m²
3. 14m
4. 1m
5. 19m
6. $3.75 \times 19 = $71.25
7. $12.80 \times 10 = $128
8. $45 + $128 + $71.25 = $244.25
9. $27.50 \times 7 = $192.50
10. $244.25 + $192.50 = $436.75
11. 300 ÷ 30 = 10
12. $2.65 \times 20 = $53
13. $5.60 ÷ 2 = $2.80
14. $84 ÷ 24 = $3.50
15. 24 ÷ 8 = 3 hens/m
16. 7000 ÷ 24 ≈ 290ml
17. 20000 ÷ 24 ÷ 7 ≈ 120g a day
18. 120 \times 30 ≈ 3.6kg/month 3.6 ÷ 20 \times 18 ≈ $3.25 each month
19. 1.5 \times 30 \times 3 ≈ $135
Display Cards
Print out, cut out and use on the board or wall to reinforce the children's knowledge of these aspects of eggs.

natural
delicious
nutritious
protein
vitamins
minerals
## Visual Art Lessons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title and Procedure</th>
<th>Equipment/ Preparation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rooster Painting</strong></td>
<td>Teacher: enlarge the rooster outline provided. Hens if needed. Rooster outline, art paper, drawing pencil, coloured paints, crayons or pencils, glue and scissors. Perspective and historical elements.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Display and discuss farmyard animal art from previous centuries. Find examples in your school library or the Internet. <strong>Students will:</strong> draw a border on art paper to represent a picture frame, place the rooster on the page in desired position - glue carefully, sketch in a rural background. Consideration should be given to perspective. Paint or colour the rooster and background keeping in mind the style of artwork.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Modern Rooster Painting</strong></td>
<td>Prints of modern artists’ works. Most school libraries have these. Art paper, watercolours, pencils, crayons and glue.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Display and discuss modern art works. Display works by modern artists such as Picasso. <strong>Students will:</strong> draw their own rooster and add a modern background using brighter colours with paint or crayons. Make rooster outline available to students if needed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discuss the environment that chickens live in. List some of the features you would find. Use for background. Demonstrate how to turn the triangle into a chicken. See illustration. (Semi-circles could also be used.) <strong>Students will:</strong> design their background, paste triangles on to paper and using the black pencils or pens, draw heads with beaks, wattles and combs, tails and legs. Provide time to practise drawing the chickens first.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Origami Ducks</strong></td>
<td>Pattern for origami duck. Paper for folding and background.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Locate an origami duck pattern and demonstrate folding the duck. Work with the class as they fold their first duck. Assist students who are having problems. Paste the ducks onto a class frieze or have students make several birds for their own poster.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicken Eggs</td>
<td>Dye with food colouring, or paint eggs or pattern with texta pens. Hard-boiled eggs or blown eggs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Create a Fancy Breed Rooster</td>
<td>Images of chickens e.g. Poultry Hub Breeds Poster Coloured feather from craft suppliers or art shops. Shiny paper, glue, paper and colouring materials.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Display unusual breeds of chickens and discuss. Ask the children to create their own ‘Fancy Breed’. Draw the bird and decorate using coloured feathers, shiny, coloured paper, paints and pencils. Students give their bird a name and display in the classroom.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3D Chickens</td>
<td>Polystyrene balls and covered, crumpled-paper balls can also be used for the head and body of the chicken.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chickens can be made using pompoms. Make two small pompoms from wool. Glue on felt or paper beaks and eyes. Add plaited wool legs and display in the classroom.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Movable quackers are made from paper. They can be used to make hand puppets by adding a comb, wattles, eyes and fringed neck glued over a cardboard roll handle.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Egg Carton Chickens</td>
<td>Egg cartons, coloured paper, scissors and glue.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use half an egg carton as the head and body of the chicken. Cover with feathers of scalloped paper. Add a comb, wattles, beak, eyes, wings and feet.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicken mobile</td>
<td>Coloured paper squares or circles, scissors, glue, string and thin cane.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use a square or circle to make a chicken. Fold your shape in half to make a triangle or semi-circle for the body. Glue the two halves together after adding curled paper strips for a tail, thin rectangular paper legs and triangles of paper for the beak, wattles and comb. Add white circles (black centre drawn in) for eyes. Hang several from a hoop or strip of cane.</td>
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</table>
Triangle Chickens

Instructions to make a Quacker

1. Fold an A4 into quarters and fold in a ‘w’ shape as illustrated.

2. Fold the four corners labelled ‘C’ inwards and the double sheeted corner labelled ‘D’ (at each end) down (one on each side) as illustrated.

3. Make a small cut at the centre of the longest side and fold the edges back as illustrated.

4. Place your index finger at position ‘F’ and your thumb at position ‘T’, open the quacker with your other hand and squeeze your thumb and index figure together and release. Repeat to make the quacker close and open.
These books could be used with the unit.

What Makes a Bird a Bird? by May Garelick
Featherbrain by John Yeoman (Animal Welfare Issues)
A Chook Called Harry by Phillip Gwynne and Terry Denton (Aussie Bites Series)
Chook Shed Snake by Phil Cummings (Omnibus Mates Series)
Tilly Lays an Egg by Terry Golson
Louise: The Adventures of a Chicken by Kate DiCamillo
The Problem with Chickens by Bruce McMillan
How the Ladies Stopped the Wind by Bruce McMillan
Minerva Louise Series by Janet Stoeke
Amelia Ellicott’s Garden by Lillian Stafford
Hattie and the Fox by Mem Fox
Rosie’s Walk by Pat Hutchins
The Painter who Loved Chickens by Olivier Dunrea
Chicken Dance by Tammy Sauer and Don Santat
Daisy Comes Home by Jan Brett
Henny Penny Traditional
The Little Red Hen Traditional
The Goose that Laid the Golden Egg Traditional
Egghead by Claire Scott (Behaviour issues for older primary)
Farmer Schultz’s Ducks by Colin Thiele
Duck for a Day Meg McKinlay
Mr Dumby’s Duck by Colin Thiele
### Eggs, The Inside Story – Drama Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Other suggestions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Partner activities</strong>&lt;br&gt;Ask students to make the following shapes: an eggcup and a spoon, a saucepan and a lid, an egg in an eggcup, a hen and chicken, feeding chickens.</td>
<td><strong>Warm Ups:</strong> Give instruction for students to find different areas in the room e.g. stand on your own, with a partner, crouch down low, move near a window, along the floor, in a group.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Movement</strong>&lt;br&gt;Move like a boiling egg in a saucepan, an egg rolling down a slope, an egg being scrambled</td>
<td>Dramatise traditional stories&lt;br&gt;The Little Red Hen, Henny Penny and Humpty Dumpty&lt;br&gt;Freeze Frames with a narrator&lt;br&gt;Role play various people involved in the industry&lt;br&gt;Write short sketches of incidents that could happen on a farm&lt;br&gt;Write and dramatise a modern Little Red Hen story</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Miming</strong>&lt;br&gt;A hatching chicken - begin inside the egg and mime the process until the chicken is fully hatched. A chicken in farmyard - scratching in the grass; drinking, stretching its wings and feet, sitting on a nest, dust bathing and sleeping with head under wing. Rooster - strutting, crowing, preening and fighting.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Combined activity</strong>&lt;br&gt;Use the above movement and add sounds like clucking and crowing. Combine sounds and movements in a sequence. Move around in a class group, repeating the sequence several times. Finish with head under wing, sleeping.</td>
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### Eggs, The Inside Story - Music Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Instructions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Singing</strong>&lt;br&gt;ABC Sing 1989, The Tennessee Wig-Walk</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Appreciation/Listening</strong>&lt;br&gt;Petrovich Musorgsky, Pictures of an Exhibition Antonio Vivaldi, The French Hen</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Create a ‘Chicken Yard’ Soundscape</strong></td>
<td>Discuss the sounds you would hear in a chicken yard. Using percussion instruments recreate the sounds. Practise and perform for an audience.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Eggs, The Inside Story - P.E. Games

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Instructions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dance / Movement</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Little Red Rooster The Rolling Stones</td>
<td>Dance routine or assembly item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dance /Movement</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Chicken Dance</td>
<td>Vary this well-known dance by adding different formations e.g. stand in two rows, facing each other, then back to back. Make a rectangle, then a circle. Finish in a random group formation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Games</strong>&lt;br&gt;Egg and spoon races, Rob the nest. Fox and Rabbits could become Fox and Chickens.</td>
<td>Use well-known games but give a new title for a day!</td>
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