



# Cloverbud Chicken Project

## (5 and 6 year olds)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ (as of January 1)

County: \_\_\_\_\_

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# 4-H Chicken Project for Cloverbuds

## "The Incredible Baby Chicks"

My name is \_\_\_\_\_.

I live in \_\_\_\_\_ County.

I am \_\_\_\_\_ years old.

I got \_\_\_\_\_ baby chicks to raise.

(How many?)

They are \_\_\_\_\_.

(What breed?)

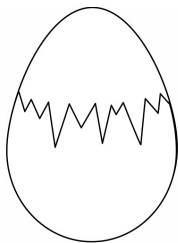
Please draw or attach a picture of you with your chicks here.

## What you will learn about this project:

- How to prepare for the arrival of your chicks
- How to take care of chicks
- The development of chicks (how the chick grows)
- How to identify body parts of a chicken and parts of an egg
- Making wise decisions and being responsible
- How to identify different breeds of poultry

## Objectives:

- Learn to care for chickens as they grow
- Share what you learn with your friends and family
- Learn to handle chicks and chickens safely and correctly
- Learn what being responsible for your chickens means
- Complete your Cloverbud Pullet Project Record



## Preparing for baby chicks:

Get help to prepare for your new baby chicks when the new chicks hatch or arrive at your door- you need to be prepared. This is the most important stage of the chick's life: from the time of arrival to the time the chicks are at least three weeks old. You will need the following: brooder box with a bedding lamp as a heat source, a feeder jar, special feed, and a water jar.

Circle which ones you have for the chicks:

Chicks need food  
and water at all times.

Feeder tray or jar



Make sure you have Starter Feed  
for your baby chicks



Match these with the correct answer:

\_\_\_\_\_ brooder box

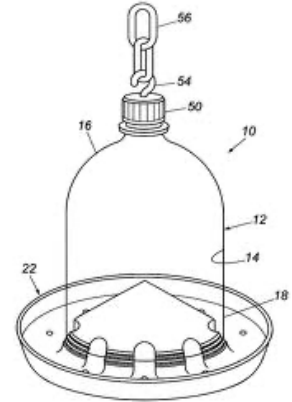
\_\_\_\_\_ heat source

\_\_\_\_\_ water jar

\_\_\_\_\_ feeder try or jar

\_\_\_\_\_ starter feed

Waterer



Brooder Box with bedding-  
clean daily



Lamp- a heat source and light  
are needed for the first week or two.

A. light to keep chicks warm

B. use to water baby chicks

C. use to put feed in for chicks

D. what baby chicks eat

E. to keep chicks in at first

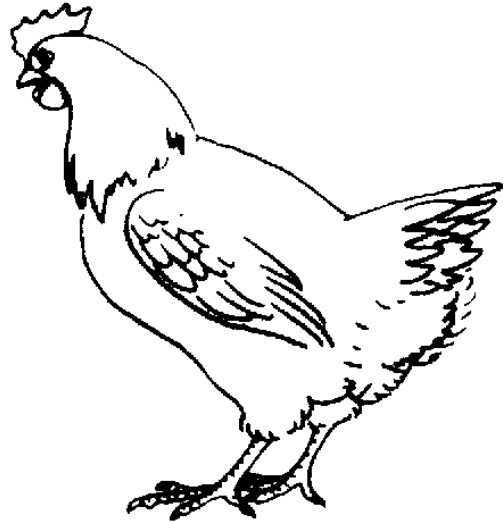
# Where my Chickens Came From:

Label these and color them. (Rooster, hen, chick and egg)



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Male chicken



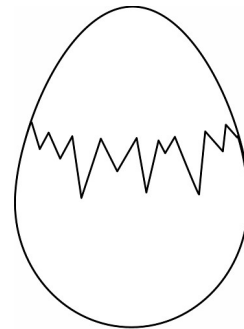
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Female chicken



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Young chicken



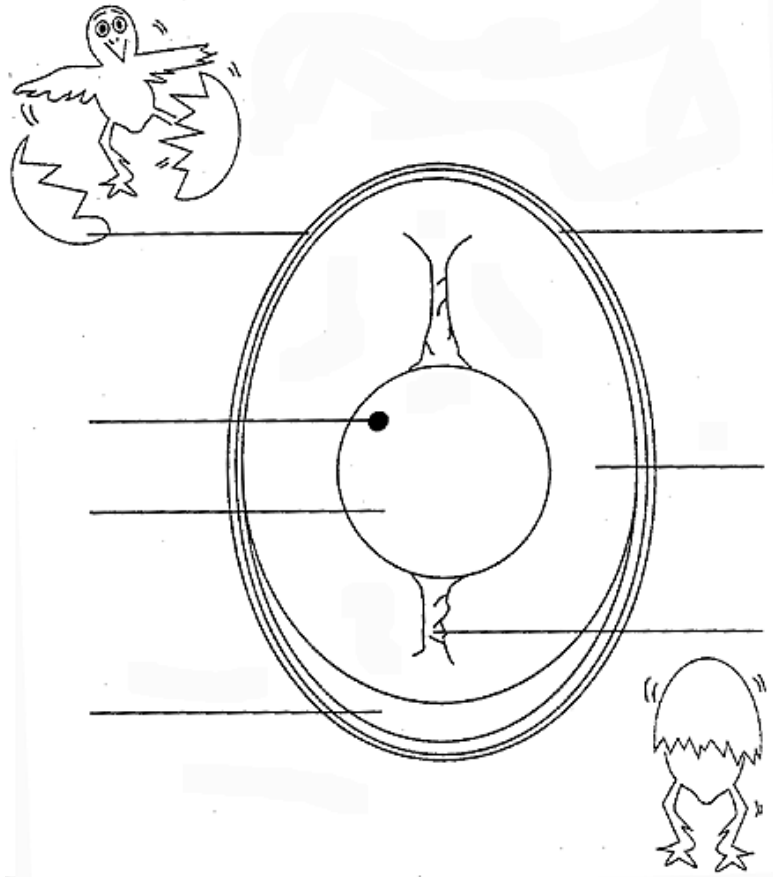
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Fertile egg

Label the parts of the egg below, then color the egg.

Egg parts:  
(look these up in  
the glossary if you  
need to)

- Chalaza
- Albumen
- Yolk
- Germ spot  
(germinal disc)
- Shell
- Air cell
- Shell membrane



Draw a line to the correct part of the chick below then color it.

- Breast
- Back
- Toe
- Beak



- Wing
- Head
- Eye

## Story—

Sharing how to care for my baby chicks:

Sarah has learned a lot about doing her 4-H Chicken Project. She has written a story about how she cares for her baby chicks, but she needs your help to fill in the correct answers to complete the story. Use the word bank below to fill in the blanks.

I feed my \_\_\_\_\_ several times each day while they are young.

They eat \_\_\_\_\_, a special feed that I get from the feed store.

They need clean \_\_\_\_\_ to drink at all times.

Until they are a few weeks old, I keep them in a \_\_\_\_\_

with a \_\_\_\_\_ to keep them warm. I use \_\_\_\_\_

for bedding and keep it clean daily. I do not use slippery paper because it will

cause them to slip and hurt their \_\_\_\_\_. When my chicks are

older, I will put them outside in a fenced yard with a chicken \_\_\_\_\_

for them to roost at night. They grow very fast! I really like to spend time with

my chickens. I learn all I can about them to make my \_\_\_\_\_

project a success. I plan to show some of my chickens at our 4-H Poultry Show

this fall. I can't wait until they are 18 to 22 weeks old and start laying

\_\_\_\_\_. We may use some, share some, and sell some.

Lamp/light

Water

4-H

Straw/shredded paper

Feed

Brooder box

Legs

Coop

Baby chicks

Egg

## **Express Yourself:**

Use another page to attach pictures of me and my flock, or pictures of poultry in newspapers and magazines. If you want to include a drawing of your flock, do that here, too!



## Finances:

Keeping track of the money you spend and the money you make on your chickens is important. The goal for a poultry project is to make more money from your chickens than you spend. Here are some things to think about:

I received \_\_\_\_\_ chicks on \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

A bag of chick starter feed costs \_\_\_\_\_ dollars.

I bought (circle one) 1 2 3 4 5 6 bags of starter feed costing me \_\_\_\_\_.

A bag of layer hen feed costs \_\_\_\_\_ dollars.

I bought (circle one) 1 2 3 4 5 6 bags of layer hen feed costing me \_\_\_\_\_.

I am hoping to show and sell \_\_\_\_\_ chicken.

I would like to sell my chicken for \_\_\_\_\_ dollars each.

I had to buy other chicken supplies for \_\_\_\_\_ dollars.

Find the words listed below and circle them.

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

|         |        |         |
|---------|--------|---------|
| Beak    | Feeder | Nest    |
| Brooder | Hands  | Poultry |
| Care    | Head   | Pullets |
| Chicks  | Health | Roost   |
| Coop    | Heart  | Rooster |
| Duck    | Hen    | Turkeys |
| Eggs    | Learn  | Yolk    |

As your baby chicks grow, they will need a bigger area. They can be moved outside, but they will still need you to care for them. The chicks will need food and water every day. They will also need a safe place to stay. A chicken coop will keep them safe from other animals. You need to feed them a good medicated starter feed for the first 6 to 8 weeks, then change to a chick growth feed until they start laying around 18 to 22 weeks old. The pullets (female chicks, not yet a year old) will begin to lay eggs and will need a nesting box. Four or five pullets (or hens) will use the same nest.

Check with your 4-H leader or Extension Agent for more information. You can also get a book from the library that will tell you about raising poultry. Get ready for the Chick Chain Show using this checklist to help you.

### A Good Showman's Checklist:

- Pick your best hens for the show
- Know what breed your chickens are
- Know what you feed them
- Know where the beak, wing, leg, breast, and comb of your chickens are located
- Know where you keep your chickens in a coop or fenced yard
- Complete your 4-H Project Book
- Remember to have fun as you learn to care for your chickens

Do your best..... To Make the Best Better!!!

## Fun Things I Did:

Things you (and your helper) have done in this project book. Discuss each activity and check the ones you did.

- We did the preparing for the baby chicks fun page
- I learned about keeping my chicks in a brooder box with a light
- I learned how to feed and water my baby chicks
- I learned how to handle my chicks safely and correctly
- I completed the poultry find-a-word page
- I completed the caring for my baby chicks story
- I completed the where my chicks came from activity
- I took pictures of my chicks
- I attended a clinic to learn how to show my chicken
- I completed the good showman checklist
- I shared what I learned with friends and family

## Parent/Child Fun Things To Do:

- Check out library books on poultry and read about different species
- Visit a farm that raises poultry
- Visit a museum – learn something new
- Visit other farm animals and learn about them
- Take pictures or make a video of you and your chickens
- Visit poultry at the fair
- Practice showing your chickens
- Learn about different breeds of chickens

## Glossary

Albumen – the white of an egg; the liquid portion surrounding the yolk

Beak – the horny mouth part of chickens, turkeys, or other fowl

Bedding – straw, wood shavings, shredded paper, or other materials used to cover the floor of a chicken coop or brooder box to absorb moisture and manure; also called *litter*

Brood – to sit on or hatch eggs; the chicks themselves

Brooder – a heating device used to imitate the warmth a mother hen gives her chicks

Chalaza – two white cords attached to each side of the yolk to hold the yolk in the center of the egg

Chick – a newly hatched chicken of either sex

Cock – adult male fowl

Cockerel – a young cock

Coop – a place where chickens are kept

Germ spot or germinal disc – the white spot on the surface of the yolk where the embryo will form

Hen – a female chicken one year of age or older

Poultry – domesticated birds kept for eggs or meat

Pullet – a female chicken less than one year old

Rooster – adult male domestic fowl

Starter feed – the feed for newly hatched poultry

Yolk – the round, yellow portion of an egg



North Carolina Cooperative Extension  
Wilson County  
1806 SW Goldsboro Street  
Wilson, NC 27893

Tel: 252-237-0113  
Fax: 252-237-0114

This Cloverbud 4-H Chicken Project Book was developed and designed by  
Joseph Carpenter, 4-Her  
Jane Carpenter, 4-H Volunteer  
and updated in 2018 by Jessica Manning, 4-H Extension Agent

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