

**Dallas County Extension
4-H Youth Development**

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Egg to Chick (Embryology) 30-Day Project Overview

Project Duration:

- **30 days total:** 21 days for incubation and 8 days for staging with the baby chicks.

Educational Requirements:

- Teachers must provide at least **6 hours of educational instruction** based on the curriculum during the program.

Post-Hatch Responsibilities:

- Schools and teachers must find reliable homes for the baby chicks within a week after hatching. It is **not recommended** to send chicks home with students. Ideally, they should go to farms or individuals who will raise them for food or eggs.

Chick Allocation:

- Each classroom can hatch between **1-12 baby chicks**. The program provides **12 eggs (one dozen) per classroom**.

Curriculum Overview:

- **ChickQuest:** This Ohio Extension Curriculum is suitable for 3rd – 6th grades and is available in hard copies. It includes a facilitator guide and a logbook for records. It is recommended to purchase one combo per classroom. Teachers can make copies of the logbook pages if needed.
 - **Website for ordering and resources:** ChickQuest: <https://ohio4h.org/chickquest>
 - The teacher's guide includes a helpful poster. There is a 21-Day Calendar poster for tracking the incubation process available to purchase as well. The curriculum can also be found on the 4-H National Mall: <https://shop4-h.org/>, but the calendar poster is only available in the ChickQuest curriculum web link provided.

Equipment and Supplies:

- Schools are responsible for providing the necessary equipment and supplies. Check within your district for available resources.
- **Tractor Supply Co.** is a 4-H national supporter, and purchasing from them supports the 4-H program in Dallas County. Items can also be bought from other retailers like Amazon, Walmart, or local feed stores. The links provided are for reference purposes.

Recommended Equipment:

- **Incubator:** One per classroom or a specific number per school. Approximate cost: \$179.99: <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/product/harris-farms-nurture-right-360>
- **Storage Tote Bin:** <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/product/greenmade-instaview-45>
- **Heating lamp:** <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/product/jobsmart-brooder-lamp-with-switch-250-watt>
- **Heating bulb:** <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/product/westinghouse-lighting-250w-r40-heat-lamp-incandescent-light-bulb-red>
- **Chick starter grower:** <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/product/dumor-organic-starter-crumble-5-lb-sp551c> 5lb bag, can be split among classrooms.

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- **Poultry Ped Bedding:** <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/product/tractor-supply-extra-fine-shavings> (can be share among classrooms).
- **Poultry waterer base:** <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/product/little-giant-1-quart-screw-on-poultry-waterer-base>
- **1 qt Screw-on Poultry jar:** <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/product/little-giant-1-qt-screw-on-poultry-jar>
- **1qt. Chicken Feeder:** <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/product/little-giant-plastic-1-quart-feeder-base> ***Optional to buy: one extra 1 qt Screw Poultry jar (link below) for extra food.
- **Newspapers:** For lining the brooder.

Program Cost:

\$50.00 per classroom. This fee covers the cost of fertilized eggs, training, and program support. It includes one dozen fertilized eggs and 3 hours of CPE credits for teachers/facilitators.

Egg Delivery:

Fertilized eggs are sourced from Texas A&M University's Poultry Department. Delivery logistics will be coordinated, with a start hatching date set during teacher training.

Teacher/Facilitator Training:

- Training covers program logistics and the ChickQuest curriculum. Virtual training may be available, but face-to-face is preferred.
- Training dates: March 5, 2025, for all schools/organizations, and March 6, 2025, for Duncanville ISD only.

Program Support:

Ongoing support will be available throughout the program for any questions or suggestions.

Post-Program Evaluation:

Schools must evaluate the program based on participant knowledge gain and application. Surveys will be provided for teachers to distribute to students.

Form Submission: Teachers are required to submit a group enrollment form per classroom at the end of the program. Form: https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/group_enrollment_form.pdf

4-H Membership Opportunity:

Dallas County 4-H is offering sponsored (free) 4-H memberships for students, thanks to our sponsors. This includes waiving the \$35 fee for youth to become 4-H members and access all the educational and financial opportunities Texas 4-H offers. Please inform us if your school/classrooms/students would like to take advantage of this opportunity.

Important Reminder:

Plan to find reliable homes for the chicks within a week after hatching.

Any questions should be directed to Elver Pardo, Dallas County Extension 4-H Agent at: elver.pardo@ag.tamu.edu