

December 19, 2018

Dear Educator,

It's time once again for the 4-H School Enrichment Embryology Program, "Hatching Chicks in the Classroom".

About the Program: The Embryology program encourages hands-on scientific learning and discussion of issues related to human and chicken development as children take care of eggs that hatch into chicks. The 2 week long embryology sessions will begin this year with egg delivery on **March 6, 2018 or April 24, 2018.**

Classroom Resources Available: We have two sets of Curriculums to enhance your classroom activities: "Hatching Classroom Projects" (Grades 2-5) and "Experiments in Poultry Science" (Grades 6-8). The color books include games, experiments activities, photo copy-able handouts and the Embryo Poster. *Sample included.*

Incubator Rental and Delivery: A limited number of incubators are available to rent. They will be rented on a first come-first serve basis. All incubators have been cleaned, checked for problems and repaired. We will deliver incubators one week before egg delivery and pick up cleaned incubators two weeks after egg delivery.

Delivery: We will deliver eggs and incubators and pick-up cleaned incubators at schools in Jefferson County. Those outside of Jefferson Co. will pick-up items at 10:00 am, on Tuesdays at Dierbergs Parking Lot in Fenton.

Training: We offer a free Embryology training session for educators. We require that you go through training if you have not hatched chicks in incubators before. If you have had problems with hatches or would like to improve your classroom program or chick hatching knowledge, you are also encouraged to attend. Please indicate on the enrollment form if you would like to attend and then we will contact you to schedule training. Topics include: operating incubators, caring for eggs and chicks, managing risk and classroom activities.

After having attended the training and hatched chicks in the classroom, teachers wrote:

- *"I felt the training was very informative and I was completely prepared for our hatching experience. The book was also very informative and helpful. The candling worked wonderfully and we enjoyed many fun activities."*
- *"Prior to this activity, I knew nothing about embryology. I am now comfortable with hatching chicks."* and
- *"Having the chicks would have been pointless and possibly a disaster! The training was very helpful."*

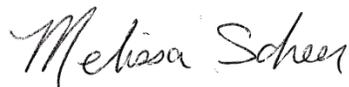
A Home for the Chicks: After the embryology project, you will need to find a suitable place for your chicks. The chickens are Cornish Cross, which are meat chickens with good hatch rates and low cost. *If you cannot find a farm, please let me know. We have contact information for volunteers willing to take them. **You should avoid sending chicks home with your students unless they already have meat chickens.***

To register for this program, please do all of the following:

- Send in complete registration before **February 1st, 2018.**
- Remember to complete the back side including demographic information about participants and
- Send a check or purchase order for the fee made out to "Jefferson County Extension Council."

Please see the enclosed documents for more information. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Melissa Scheer
4-H Youth Development Specialist