

Project FOCUS
Best Lessons
KINDERGARTEN

Title of Lesson: Life Cycle of a Chicken

Theme: Life Science

Unit Number: 6 **Unit Title:** Plants and Animals

Performance Standard(s) Covered (enter code):

SKCS4: Students will use the ideas of system, model, change, and scale in exploring scientific and technological matters.

SKCS5: Students will communicate scientific ideas and activities clearly.

Enduring Standards (objectives of activity):

Habits of Mind

- Asks questions
- Uses numbers to quantify
- Works in a group
- Uses tools to measure and view
- Looks at how parts of things are needed
- Describes and compares using physical attributes
- Observes using senses
- Draws and describes observations

Content (key terms and topics covered):

Life cycle, egg, chick, chicken, growth, hatch

Learning Activity (description in steps)

Abstract (limit 100 characters): This activity teaches the students the four stages of the life cycle of a chicken.

Details: Before I visited the class, I pre-cut ‘eggs’ for three of the four stages: one small white egg, one medium white egg, and one medium yellow egg. I also shredded paper bags into small amounts to serve as the “nest”. Lastly, I cut out small squares with the phrase, “Life Cycle of a Chicken” on it.

After introducing the topic and asking questions about what they already knew involving the life cycle of a chicken, I discussed each stage individually while completing the craft. First, I had the students glue down the square with “Life Cycle of a Chicken” in the middle of a piece of colored card stock paper. Then I walked through each stage of the life cycle with them in the following order: 1) the small white egg and shredded paper bag material to serve as the ‘nest’; 2) the medium white egg with a crack in it to show that the chick is hatching; and 3) the medium yellow egg to represent the chick. For the fourth and final stage, I painted each student’s palm with washable red paint, and had them stamp their hand down to serve as the adult chicken. After the paint dried, I had the students add googly eyes to the hatched chick and adult chicken, and

then I allowed them to draw wings, feet, etc., to make it their own. For the final touch, each student drew arrows connecting each stage, while also reviewing the life cycle.

Materials Needed (type and quantity):

White construction paper (small egg and medium egg)

Yellow construction paper (medium egg)

Colored card stock paper

Paper bags (shredded)

Googly eyes

Glue sticks

Markers

Washable red paint (with paint brush)

Notes and Tips (general changes, alternative methods, cautions):

I definitely advise you to use colored card stock paper to glue everything on because it is much sturdier. If you give each student all of the pre-cut supplies before beginning, make sure to tell them not to begin until directions are given. Also, be aware that many of them have a difficult time drawing arrows, so you may want to have those pre-drawn as well.

Sources/References:

1) <http://www.iheartcraftythings.com/2011/09/life-cycle-of-chicken.html>