

Trivia Facts



- During the spring equinox (usually around March 21) an egg will stand on its small end. How "eggs"traordinary!
- The largest single chicken egg ever laid weighed one pound with a double yolk and double shell.
- Eggs age more in one day at room temperature than in one week in the refrigerator.
- On the average, one hen will lay 250-300 eggs per year.

Jokes

- A. Why was the little chick punished in school?
- B. Why did the chicken sit on an axe?
- C. If a rooster laid a brown egg and a white egg, what kind of chicks would hatch?
- D. Why did they let the chicken join the band?

Joke Answers

- A. It was caught peeping during a test.
- B. So she could hatch-it.
- C. None. Roosters don't lay eggs.
- D. Because he had a drumstick.

Farm Facts

- About 240 million laying hens produce about five-and-a-half billion dozen eggs per year.
- The color of the egg yolk depends on the hen's diet. If she eats yellow corn the yolk is medium yellow. If she eats barley or wheat, the yolk is a lighter color.
- Most eggs produced today will be at the grocery store within 72 hours.



AG-Mazing News ~ Links to Agriculture

Egg-citing Eggs



Farmers raise chickens to provide **eggs** or **meat**. Female chickens are called **hens**. Male chickens are called **roosters**. They have larger combs and wattles than hens and their feathers are more colorful.

A female chicken that is raised for laying eggs is called a **laying hen**. Hens can lay an egg every 24-26 hours. The color of an eggshell depends on the breed of hen. Hens with white earlobes lay white eggs. Hens with red earlobes lay brown eggs. Rhode Island Reds and Plymouth Rock chickens lay brown eggs. White Leghorns and Brown Leghorns lay white eggs.

Chickens raised for their meat are called **broilers** or **fryers**. The meat from these chickens provides chicken patties, chicken nuggets, and whole roasting chickens.

Chickens eat chicken feed. The main ingredients are corn, wheat, sorghum, or another grain. Vitamins and protein supplements, such as soybean meal, are added to their feed. **Broilers** eat one pound of feed each week but **laying hens** eat four pounds of feed for every dozen eggs they lay. The types of supplements and the amount of feed depend on the type of chicken the farmer is raising.

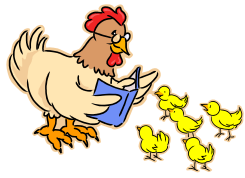
Today, Americans eat more than 80 pounds of chicken per person per year! In 1960, it was less than 30 pounds. Chicken is a delicious, low-fat source of protein for healthy diets. How do you like to eat your chicken?



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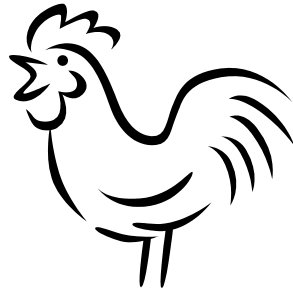


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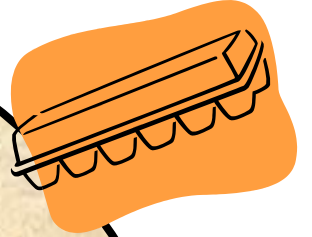


What Do You Remember?

- For a chick to hatch, a hen must sit on her egg for
 - a long time.
 - two years.
 - 21 days.
 - 21 months.
- Male chickens
 - are called layers.
 - are called roosters.
 - are called hens.
- The color of an eggshell is a result of
 - where the egg is laid.
 - the breed of hen laying the egg.
 - the diet of the hen.
 - the time of the year the egg is laid.
- According to the article, which chicken eats more feed per week?
 - rooster
 - layer
 - broiler
 - a baby chick
- How many more pounds of chicken does the average American eat now as compared to the amount eaten in 1960?
 - 80 pounds
 - 30 pounds
 - 50 pounds
 - 40 pounds



The Bouncing Egg



Materials: One hard cooked egg, white vinegar, and a clear container or jar with a lid

- Without breaking the shell, examine the hard-cooked egg carefully. Record your observations.
- Place the egg in the container. Cover it with the vinegar. Place the lid on the container. Predict what will happen in one hour, one day and one week. Record your prediction.
- Observe the egg at the designated times. Record your observations.
- At the end of one week, rinse and dry the egg. Drop it. What happens?
- What amazed you most as you did this experiment?

