

Chicken Care 101

Mondays 1:00 - 3:00

Class meets on January 13th

Class runs from April 7th - May 19th

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Through hands on learning, they will learn about the planning for and care of chickens. Students will learn about different breeds of chickens, their nutritional needs, and how to properly care for them. Through all activities and interacting with chicks and actively caring for them, students will gain the knowledge on how to raise a happy hen!

Syllabus/Outline: Weekly Breakdown of Project-Based Learning Activity

Each week's class requires active participation. Students will be primarily outside during each class. Weather will determine our class agenda for the week, so please note that some sequence of classes may change. We always try and follow our students' interests and questions (within reason) and will change class topics accordingly to address their curiosity. Please note, that rain will not deter us from being outside. We do have an indoor classroom that we can use should the need arise.

Each class will include time to maintain and care our chicken coop, and chicks when they arrive. Students will feed and care for chicks each time they come to class.

Meeting/Week 1:

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Week 2: Chicken Coop Repair

We will conduct any repairs needed on our Chicken Coop fence/netting and begin to discuss feeders and waterers and the need for dust baths to prevent mites! Cleaning and Care of the Coop. How to properly clean the Coop and make sure it is secure.

Week 3:

We learn all about the benefits of having chickens, everything from fresh eggs to having amazing, nutritional compost for your garden. We will instruct a tunnel to move our chickens to new areas (this goes along with composting)

Week 4: Chicken Nutrition. Our very own feeding & Nutrition Consultant will be a special guest in our class and discuss the different nutritional needs of chickens and what different feeds have to offer. We will learn about supplements and how their feed may need to

change when they are molting or when they are sick. We will stress that the health of an egg is directly tied to the nutrition of a chicken.

Week 5: Parasites and chickens! We will learn how to naturally keep parasites away from our chickens through their feed, special chicken cleaning techniques and what plants to grow near their coop.

Week 6: Eggs and More Eggs! Today we will learn about how many eggs a hen can lay, how to increase their number of eggs laid, when to collect them and how to store eggs. We will also learn about Michigan Laws regarding the selling of eggs.

Week 7: We will begin our class with chicken/coop care and learn about basic first aid care for chickens Dust Baths, Molting and foot care! We will learn some basic chicken first aid and different methods to treat them.

Week 8: We will begin our class with chicken/coop care. We will learn how to clean our chicken coop and maintain it as to keep our chickens safe and healthy.