



Chatting About Chickens

Video #324

Developed for Grades: K - 1st

The WOW videos have been developed to inspire students to learn more about **NGSS Life Science and/or Earth Science Disciplinary Core Ideas**. These could include:

- Plants and animals (including humans) can change their environment.
- Living things need water, air, and resources from the land.
- Humans use natural resources for everything they do.
- All organisms have internal and external structures that serve various functions in growth, survival, behavior and reproduction.
- Importance of ecosystems and habitats
- Cross cutting concepts like patterns, cause and effect, etc.

The WOW videos and their support documents can also be used with **English Language Arts**. Here are some ideas:

1. Select a few questions from the Know-It-All section and have students write their answers.
2. Have students write a story related to the topic. They could even add illustrations. For some grades students could read their stories and/or video tape their readings to share.
3. Students could write a poem, a play, or a song based on something in the video that created an emotional response for them.
4. Key words in the video can be used in creative writing assignments.
5. Older students could explore the difference in learning from video as opposed to a book. What are the advantages and disadvantages?

Answer Key for Know-It-All

1. **Chickens are the smallest animals on our farm. What was the pledge we did with Dani? What do you think chickens think of humans? How do you think chickens know which humans are friendly and which ones are scary?**
 - Answers may vary. Chickens may see humans as giants that have access to their favorite food. Maybe chickens don't differentiate between friendly or not, just who is giving them tasty treats. Quick movements from any humans can scare chickens.
2. **Why do chickens make good farm animals?**
 - Chickens provide eggs and meat that are high in protein. They are small and easy to house. They grow quickly and can lay an egg every day or day and a half, or up to 300 eggs a year.
3. **At night, chickens 'roost'. This means, when they go to bed, they find a high place in their shelter. Did you see their roosting ladder in the video? Why do chickens like to roost at night? Why is it smart to be high off the ground?**
 - Chickens feel safer when they are sleeping up off of the ground. They are trying to stay away from predators, most of whom cannot climb on narrow perches.
4. **What kinds of tools do chickens have on their bodies for finding and eating food?**
 - Chickens use their sharp claws to dig in the dirt in search of worms and insects. They use their sharp beaks like tweezers to pick up worms, insects and seeds and to take bites out of ripe fruit.

