

Objective

By the end of this lesson, you will learn about the basics of raising chickens and how to care for them.

Materials and Prep

- Pen and paper for notes
- Access to the backyard or a local farm with chickens
- Comfortable clothes and closed-toe shoes for outdoor activities

No prior knowledge needed, just come with a curious mind!

Activities

- **Observation Time:** Spend some time observing the chickens in their natural habitat. Take notes on their behavior and interactions.
- **Feeding Frenzy:** Prepare a small amount of chicken feed and scatter it for the chickens. Observe how they eat and which ones are more dominant.
- **Egg-citing Hunt:** Look for fresh eggs in the coop. Learn how to handle them properly and differentiate between fresh and old eggs.
- **Chicken Care:** Help with simple chicken care tasks like refilling water, cleaning the coop, or collecting eggs (if allowed).

Talking Points

- **Chickens are Social Birds:** "Chickens are social animals and enjoy being in a flock. They communicate with each other through different sounds and body language."
- **Chicken Nutrition:** "Chickens need a balanced diet to stay healthy. They eat grains, greens, insects, and even small rodents."
- **Egg-laying Process:** "Hens lay eggs as part of their reproductive cycle. They need a comfortable nesting area to lay eggs."
- **Basic Healthcare:** "Chickens need regular access to clean water, a safe shelter, and protection from predators to stay healthy."