



To borrow an incubator contact:  
[byrd.282@osu.edu](mailto:byrd.282@osu.edu)

Incubation Questions & Chick Drop-off  
[hogan.239@osu.edu](mailto:hogan.239@osu.edu)

Candling is a process where a special light is held up to the fertilized eggs to show the chicks moving inside. You may schedule candling between days 15-17 at the time of your incubator reservation. Be sure to coordinate the visit across all classrooms, etc. and schedule early by emailing [hogan.239@osu.edu](mailto:hogan.239@osu.edu).

Brochure date: August 2018



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

# Guidelines for Borrowing Chick Incubators 2018-19

## Franklin County OSU Extension



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AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



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# Incubator Borrowing Guidelines:

Hatching chicks in your setting using the 4-H CHICKQUEST curriculum can be fun and educational! If you are borrowing an incubator from OSU Extension in Franklin County, then there are some steps in the process:

- The incubators can be reserved in advance but are offered on a first-come, first-served basis.
- The incubators and accompanying materials cost around \$200. For this reason, a \$150 check will be collected at time of loan made out to *OSU Extension, Franklin County*. Your check will be held uncashed until the incubator and materials are returned in good and clean condition on the due date, four weeks later. At that time, it will be returned to you.
- You will need to come to our office at a pre-arranged time to pick up and return the incubator.
- You can purchase the eggs yourself which are available year round from many internet suppliers at a cost of about \$2.00 each. Although we do not recommend any company, teachers in the area have used Meyer Hatchery at [www.meyershatchery.com](http://www.meyershatchery.com). Please note that we only support chick incubation and not ducks or quail.
- A CHICKQUEST teacher guide is on loan with the incubator. You can buy your own guide and/or student logbooks at : [http://estore.osu-extension.org/cw\\_Search.aspx?k=chickquest](http://estore.osu-extension.org/cw_Search.aspx?k=chickquest), or you can purchase them at a slightly reduced rate from our office if you pick them up. Email Christina Byrd at [byrd.282@osu.edu](mailto:byrd.282@osu.edu) for current rates and to order books.
- Due to the threat of Avian Flu, which is not harmful to humans, chick incubation can be cancelled at any time by the state veterinarian. This is to protect the poultry industry and also the consumer who may experience higher food costs if Avian Flu is detected.

## Borrowing Guidelines, cont.

- Individuals borrowing the incubators are expected to take care of them, and to treat the chicks humanely. We also recommend that children do not touch the eggs or chicks, and that hand-washing guides be followed by those adults who do.
- Some schools have put a live camera on their fertilized eggs and linked it to their school website. If your school or organization has this capacity, it makes the experience a fun one for those in the educational community,

## What to do with the chicks if you need a home for them:

If you do not have a home for the chicks your first step is to check with others in your own school or organization. Many individuals have a connection to a farmer or someone who raises backyard chickens in areas of Franklin County where they are permitted to do so. Please make sure that individuals taking the chicks have the means to take care of them, and that they will be treated ethically. Do not send chicks home with children; an adult should come and get them. Also, If you do find a home for the chicks, then you are required to keep and maintain a form stating the location in the event Avian Flu is

## What to do with chicks, cont.

ever detected. Additional information can be found here:

[https://ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/imce/4h\\_science/Science\\_Alive\\_ChickQuest/Procedure%20to%20Follow%20for%202016%20ChickQuest%20Programs1-OPA.pdf](https://ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/imce/4h_science/Science_Alive_ChickQuest/Procedure%20to%20Follow%20for%202016%20ChickQuest%20Programs1-OPA.pdf)

If you do not have a home for your chickens we are committed to finding one for you, although there is never a guarantee for this service. Please note the following:

- During the spring and early summer months when chick incubation programs are in full swing, we will have **designated drop off dates**. This is so that we can coordinate with those taking the chicks. You will need to bring the chicks to 530 W. Spring St., Suite 275 at that time.
- You must let us know at least **21 days in advance** (when you put the eggs in the incubator) that you will be bringing in the chicks, and we will schedule your drop off date.
- We do not take chicks 10 days after hatch, as we do not have the means in our office to take care of larger birds. Also, we only take chicks, not ducklings or any other poultry.

**Questions? Email:**  
**[hogan.239@osu.edu](mailto:hogan.239@osu.edu)**