

Embryology

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The lights are dimmed and students and teachers eagerly wait to see what's going on inside each egg. By using a special light, students and teachers can see inside the egg for the first time. For everyone in the room, this is one of the most exciting moments of the entire project.

At the end of the incubation period, about 21 days, the students watch for any signs of "pipping" (when the chick uses its egg tooth to break or chip through the shell). Once the eggs start to pip, the students anxiously check the incubator throughout the

day. Fortunately, most of the chicks will hatch just fine if they have pipped.

The newly-hatched chicks stay in the classroom where the students learn how to care for them. Children enjoy the chicks so much, they sometimes choose to stay in from recess or come to school early just to be with the new babies. After a couple of days, the chicks are picked up by extension staff and given to local farmers.

For more information on 4-H Embryology in Lancaster County, Nebraska, visit <http://lanaster.unl.edu/4h/embryology>

4-H Embryology Web Site Gets Worldwide Attention

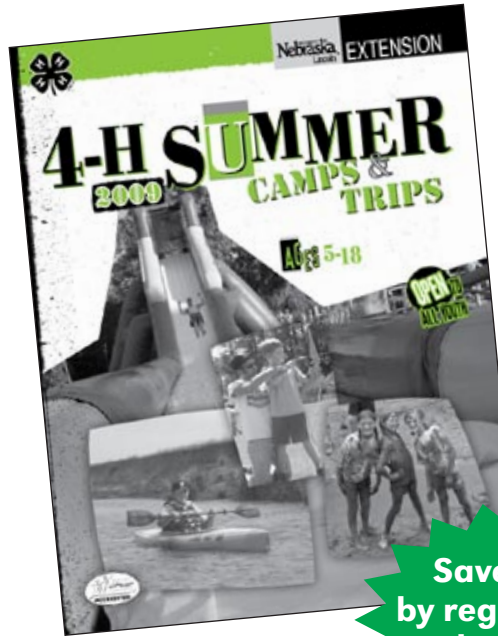
The 4-H Embryology Web site at <http://lanaster.unl.edu/4h/embryology> has gotten a lot of national and international attention.

Many educational sites have featured 4-H Embryology and 4-H EGG Cam, including: Mother Goose Time Preschool, goCyberCamp™, EarthCam Top Ten, SciLinks, American Library Association's Great Sites for Kids, Kim Komando Radio Show and more.

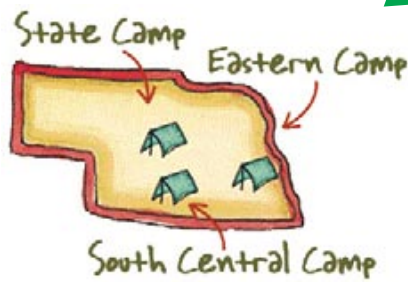
4-H EGG Cam photo resources have also been included in books by Hobby Farms, the National Science Resource Center (managed by the Smithsonian Institution and the National Academies) and even a Baby Einstein book. One photo researcher used photos in an interactive exhibit at the Science and Technology Museum in Al-Khobar, Saudi Arabia.



Save 10% on 4-H Camps by Registering Before April 1!



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4-H Summer Camps & Trips are open to all youth ages 5–19 — need not be in 4-H. Specializing in leadership development and team building, 4-H summer camps create positive memories which last a lifetime.

With three unique Nebraska locations at Halsey, Gretna and Alma, there are more than 40 camps ranging from half day to four days/three nights. Some camp sessions offer a range of activities while others focus on a specific theme. Most camps include one to four overnight stays in comfortable cabins. Six camps aimed at youth ages 5–8 are one-day camps and adult chaperones are invited!

UNL Extension, through its 4-H Youth Development Program, has been operating 4-H Camps for over 40 years. The 4-H camps and centers all meet over 300 standards established by the American Camping Association.

Since the Eastern Nebraska 4-H Camp near Gretna is closest to Lincoln, many Lancaster County youth attend camps there, however local youth also attend camps at the other two locations.

2009 4-H Summer Camp brochures have complete information and registration forms — available online at <http://4h.unl.edu/camp> or at the extension office.

Camp Counselors Needed

Youth ages 15–19 years are needed to volunteer to help children have the best summer of their lives while camping at Nebraska 4-H Camps and Centers. Camp Counselors develop leadership skills, self-confidence and independence! They meet friends which will last a lifetime, experience excitement, challenges and have FUN! You may apply to be a counselor at a variety of camps offered during the months of June, July and August. Information and application are available online at <http://4h.unl.edu/camp/staff/counseling.htm> or contact Tracy at 441-7180. Applications are due March 13. Applications received after the deadline may be accepted until all positions are filled. 4-H Council will reimburse Lancaster County youth the cost of the training. For LPS students who are still in school during the training, camps will work around your school schedule.

Cabin Mentors Needed

Cabin Mentors age 17 and older are needed at the 4-H Camps. Mentors have the opportunity to gain the skills and experience necessary for a future 4-H summer program staff position and provide overall night time cabin supervision. They support and mentor camp counselors and campers in meeting their responsibilities. They help develop a "team" atmosphere in their cabin and program group. Information and application are available online at <http://4h.unl.edu/camp/staff/mentors.htm> or contact Tracy at 441-7180. Applications are due March 13. Applications received after the deadline may be accepted until all positions are filled.

U.S. Drought Monitor Map

As of Feb. 3, Lancaster County was not in drought conditions.



	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	89.5	10.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Last Week (2/17/2009 map)	89.5	10.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
3 Months Ago (11/11/2008 map)	90.7	9.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Start of Calendar Year (1/1/2009 map)	89.8	10.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Start of Water Year (12/01/2008 map)	83.0	17.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
One Year Ago (2/03/2008 map)	66.7	33.3	15.7	7.8	1.7	0.0

Intensity:
 D0 Abnormally Dry
 D1 Drought - Moderate
 D2 Drought - Severe
 D3 Drought - Extreme
 D4 Drought - Exceptional

For the most recent map, visit <http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm>

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Explore Career Options at Big Red Academic Camps

The 2009 Big Red Summer Academic Camps are a chance for high school youth to spend time investigating an interest or potential career, explore the UNL campus, meet people from across the state and have lots of fun. Held in June, Big Red Summer Academic Camps features 12 career exploration camps hosted by Nebraska 4-H and UNL faculty members. The camps are residence camps held on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus. Housing and food are provided.

After spending several fun-filled days exploring a specific topic such as movie-making or food molecular biology, youth showcase their work at a special "capstone event" which family members are invited to attend. Brochures and registration forms are available at <http://bigredcamps.unl.edu> or at the extension office.

For more information, call 472-2805. 4-H members are encouraged to apply for a scholarship — application is on the Web site.

Save \$50 by registering before April 1!



Camp	Dates	Grade**
Our Changing Earth*	June 7-12	9-12
Child Development	June 7-12	9-12
Companion Animals*	June 7-12	9-12
Culinary Arts	June 7-12	9-12
Filmmaking	June 7-12	9-12
Food Molecular Biology	June 7-12	9-12
Spider Science	June 7-12	10-12
Theatre	June 7-12	9-12
Quilt Design	June 7-12	9-12
Unicameral Youth Conference	June 7-10	9-12
Veterinary Science*	June 7-12	9-12
Web Design and Animation	June 7-12	9-12

* New camp for 2009

**Grade for Fall '09. Students who graduate in May '09 are welcome to attend.

Can You Guess It?



Vicki Jedicke, UNL Extension in Lancaster County

Did you guess it? Find out at <http://lanaster.unl.edu>

Did you guess it from the February NEBLINE? The answer was Broccoli!