# Egg...Chick...Chicken!

*Beacon kindergarteners study eggs and chicks up close*



Spring has sprung, and to the delight of Beacon kindergarteners, chicken eggs which have been incubating for the past three weeks began hatching yesterday. Students, staff and parents have been on "egg watch" these past few days, thanks to a YouTube live stream set up to monitor the eggs in case they hatched outside of the school day. Three fluffy chicks joined the Beacon team yesterday, and are now snug in their brooder box to be observed and enjoyed, waiting for more to join them.

While students waited for the chicks to arrive, teachers Jessica Wolma & Kristin Linn (with support from Instructional Coach Pam Krebs) led them through a unit about safely hatching chicks and supporting their growth from an egg to a chick. They researched chicks using books, read-alouds and videos on Seesaw, learning how the embryo grows and how the incubator acts as the mother hen by turning the eggs and keeping them warm. Students made frequent observation drawings to track the chick's growth inside the egg, and learned how candling eggs allows that growth to be safely seen.

*Making Waves – Brewing Independence*

In preparation for their arrival, Wolma & Linn taught the kindergartners what the chicks will need to survive after hatching (food, water, heat lamp, etc.) and how to handle them properly. Classes also welcomed a local expert who shared their knowledge about raising chicks.

Now that the babies have arrived, students will soon be able to hold and touch the chicks, as well as take part in filling the water/food and cleaning the brooder box. To showcase all they have learned, students will work in small groups to create informational posters to be displayed around the school.  Once the chicks begin to lose their down feathers, Linn will take them home to join her existing chickens in their spacious coop.

Live stream link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IR46-n0EB5o

Can you answer this trivia question about chickens:  Which US state has the most chickens? *(answer at bottom)*



Answer: Yolk-lahoma! ☺