

Washington Newspaper

At Home/
Bird Edition

June 2020



Ms. Wernimont's chickens have grown!

Many of us have been watching on the ClassDojo school story as our school's baby chicks have been turning into chickens. It has been fascinating to watch them grow. As a result, two of our fifth-graders have interviewed Ms. Wernimont and Mrs. Webster, to learn more about our

chickens (that Ms. Wernimont is raising), and ducks, that we discovered Mrs. Webster had acquired at the beginning of the pandemic. Read our newspaper to learn more!



Funny Chicken Jokes: For kids

Handmade by Faith Naomi DeMars

Q: What did the Chicken say to the funny chicken?

A: Stop being such a yolker!

Q: What did egg say to the mixer?

A: Please don't beat me up!

Q: What do you call a Scared Chicken?

A: A chicken!

Q: What do you call a crazy chicken?

A: A cuckoo cluck!



About Mrs, Websters Ducks.

By Jenisha Sarki

Mrs. Webster told me at a Zoom meeting that she had ducks. I was amazed and wanted to find out more about them. This is what I learned.

When Mrs. Webster first got her ducklings, she kept them in the bath tub. She got them when they were 4 days old. They were shy but you could hold them and pet them.



Now, they have a pen outside with a little house that they go in to sleep at night. There are wood shavings to keep them comfortable.

Mrs. Webster loves getting up early in the morning before her kids wake up. When she gets up she gets the ducks fresh water and food. They eat duck food that you buy in the store, watermelon and lettuce. They are not allowed to eat



spinach. The ducks have their own kiddie pool to swim in. They love that! That's their favorite thing to do...swim in the pool. Mrs. Webster brings her tea outside, and watches them splash around in their pool.

Now the ducks hate being held, and you have to chase them for a long time to catch them! They scream like babies when you hold them! However, they will eat out of Mrs. Webster's hand.

They are best friends and stick together the whole time.



Chicken Facts

Written by: Faith Naomi DeMars

A Chickens Comb

All types of breed have this thing on their head which is called the comb. The comb is an organ. It is cooler than the rest of the chickens body. Why you ask? It is because it helps cool down the chicken, so does the wattle which is located under the chicken neck. Not all chickens like Ms. Wernimont's chickens will have the same sized combs. Different types of breeds will have different sized combs. You can tell if the chicken is sick by looking at the chicken's comb. If the chickens comb is pale or shrunken something may be wrong with chicken. Male chickens have bigger combs than the female chickens. The strongest birds have the largest combs and are reddest to show it's boss, and are the strongest. You can tell the chickens apart by looking at their combs.

A Chicken's Care

A chicken's nails are sharp. You do not need to clip their nails, because they wear them down by scratching the dirt. If they are in an area where they can't scratch, then they may be needed to be clipped. Chicken don't need to be given baths or cleaned off. The chicken will clean off themselves. The chickens clean themselves by taking dust baths to help prevent mites. If the chicken does get mites you can give them something that is called Diatomaceous Earth. Diatomaceous Earth is a type of rock. You can put it in the ground or in their food to also prevent parasites in their bodies.

White Horned Leg Chickens

A female chicken is born with all of the eggs it will lay in the future in its body. Different types of chickens lay a different amounts of eggs. A White Leg Horned chicken will lay around 280-320 eggs a year. It depends on how much heat and water they get. White Leg Horned chickens come from Italy. White Leg Horned chickens' life span is about 4-6 years or more depending on care, and will lay eggs for about 5-7 years. Chickens lay eggs depending on the amount of sun they get. Chickens need light to lay eggs, because their reproductive cycle is triggered by the natural photoperiod, or light-dark cycle. In the winter time, you can manipulate this so they still continue to lay eggs. You can put lights in their coop so they still lay eggs. When you manipulate them you should put a red light in the coop to keep them calm.

What does Roost Mean?

Roost means where the chickens get together and **congregate** at night, to sleep. Chickens like to roost off the ground because this prevents parasites from going in their bodies and keeps them from lying in their droppings.

Fun Facts: Things you Didn't know about chickens

1. Chickens have better eye sight than humans.
2. Chicks are smarter than human babies
3. Chickens Teach their offspring
4. Chickens when sleeping dream
5. The oldest chicken lived to 22 years
6. Hen talk to their chicks before they are born
7. Chicken love playing!

Words To Know

***Congregate**: Congregate means to come together.

