

## ChickQuest

# Chicken 101

The chicken is the most common species of bird in the world. There are over 25 billion chickens around the world, making it one of the most common domestic species.

Let's write that number out: \_\_ \_\_, \_\_ \_\_ \_\_, \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_, \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_. Wow, that is a lot of chickens!

Chickens eat soybeans, and a lot of chickens eat a LOT of soybeans. Let's do the math!

- Ohio is home to 30,000,000 million hens and 10,000,000 pullets each year. If 1 chicken eats 1 bushel of soybeans each year, how many bushels do Ohio's chickens eat each year?
- One bushel of soybeans weighs 60 pounds. How many pounds of soybeans are needed to feed Ohio's chickens?
- Ohio produces over 264,470,000 bushels of soybeans last year. How many chickens would that feed for 1 year?

### How much do you know about chickens?

Research the fun chicken facts below or discuss with your partner to match the correct answers.

Time it takes for a chick to hatch	clutch
A group of eggs	eggs
A group of chicks	feather
A group of chickens	pullet
A male chicken	omnivore
A female chicken that lays eggs	rooster
A young female chicken that does not lay eggs	brood
A baby chicken	flock
Eats plants or animals like insects	hen
Keep chickens warm	21 days
Chicks form inside	chick

**Fun fact:** Did you know that the chicken is the closest living relative to the great *Tyrannosaurus rex*? What similarities do you see? Write a quick story about these distant cousins meeting each other!

