

# CHICKENS VS PENGUINS

**Focus Lesson:** Chickens vs Penguins

**Materials:** \*\*See Teacher Note

Books in reading list  
 Large Venn Diagram on board or poster paper

**Time:** 1 hour

**\*Common Core Standards:**  
**CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.8**

Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; summarize or paraphrase information in notes and finished work, and provide a list of sources

**CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.9**

Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research

**Thinking Skill:** Compare/contrast

**Objective:**

Students will create a Venn Diagram to compare and contrast chicken egg development and parenting to penguin eggs.

**Connection:**

What do we know about chicken eggs?  
 What do we know about the role of the mother chicken? The father chicken?  
 List all known facts about chicken development.

**Explicit Instruction:**

Ask the children what they know about how penguins are born.  
 Read *The Emperor's Egg* aloud.

**Guided Practice:**

Students work with a partner to brainstorm at least 3 facts about penguins learned from the read aloud.

Combine partners with another pair to share what they remember from book. The groups of 4 will work on Venn Diagram comparing similarities and differences between chickens and Emperor penguins.

**Independent Practice:**

Each student must come up with 1 shared fact between chickens and penguins, and 1 thing that makes these animals different.

Have nonfiction books about chickens and penguins available for reference.

**Reflection – Group Share:**

Create a large class Venn Diagram combining all the information gathered by the students.

Discuss: What makes penguins unique? What makes chickens unique?

**Reading list:**

*The Emperor's Egg* by Martin Jenkins  
Assorted nonfiction chicken books for reference

**Teacher Note:** Students should already have a basic understanding of chicken egg development in order to be able to effectively take in and compare the multitude of new penguin information. If students don't have a strong understanding of chicken eggs, do an introductory lesson before attempting this one.