

Chickens

Chickens are domestic birds. Chickens provide people with meat and eggs. Some people also keep chickens, which can live as long as 15 years, as pets. Chickens are smarter than most people think. Scientists researching chickens have found that they can remember and learn from past events, dream, understand and share the feelings of others, and even do math!



Chickens can be as little as two pounds or as big as eight pounds or more. They have reddish combs on their heads and two reddish fleshy growths called wattles under their necks. Birds don't have teeth. The food they eat gets ground up in a part of their stomach called the gizzard. The gizzard is mostly muscle, and it has a rough inner surface that grinds the food and breaks it down like mammals do with their teeth when they chew.

1. What foods do chickens provide?
2. How long can chickens live?
3. Describe how smart chickens are.
4. What is a wattle?
5. What is a gizzard?