A CHECK-IN WITH CHICKENS

Brought to you by the U.S. Poultry & Egg Association and funded by the USPOULTRY Foundation
Hey Benjamin, have you ever visited a farm?

No. I don’t think farmers are very interesting.
Don’t forget that we have local farmers here for “Farm to School Week” that you can talk to if you have questions about food!

Let’s go over and talk to some of the farmers!

OK.
Hi there – are you a farmer?

I sure am! My family and I raise chickens on our farm.

Cool! I do like chickens.
Do you want to see some pictures from my farm to get started?

Sure.

I’d like that.
Welcome to our farm! We’re standing beside two chicken houses.

That’s a house?

A really long house!

Most of the chickens and turkeys raised in the U.S. today are cared for in buildings or houses just like this.
Wow!

Look at the cute little chicks!

The chicks come to the farm the day they’re hatched. We have the houses ready for them with food, water and fresh bedding – and the house is just the right temperature! We take good care of them over their lifetime.
See the big tanks? Those are feed silos. They hold chicken feed from the local feed mill.

What is this black panel on the side of the house?

Chickens have air conditioning?!? And computers?!?

Those help cool down the chickens on hot days. It’s like air conditioning, and it’s controlled by the computers in the house.
I know that chickens provide us with meat and eggs.

That’s right. When the time is right, the chickens leave our farm to be harvested. Our chickens are raised for meat. Other farmers raise chickens for eggs.

Aren’t you sad when they leave?

I enjoy taking care of the chickens while we have them on our farm, but they are not pets. I know that they provide a good source of protein with their meat and eggs.
Thank you for showing us your farm today. I learned a lot!

And I learned that farmers are super interesting! Who knew that chickens had computers AND air conditioning?

You’re welcome! Farm families like mine all over the U.S. work hard to raise food.