



Name: _____

Life Skill:

Poultry Project Skill:

Success Indicator:

Taking responsibility

Learning about ethical issues

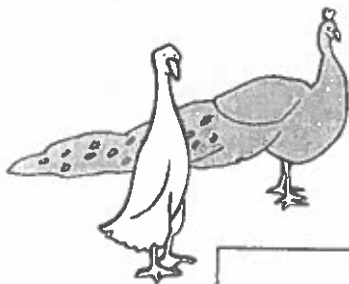
Discusses values and ethics pertaining to poultry-related issues.

What kind of person are you? Not your height or weight, not your gender or skin color, but what kind of person are you down deep? As a young person, you are in the process of building your reputation — how you are known and regarded

by others. You are also developing your personal ethics and value system, such as how you tell right from wrong and how you know to do the right thing. This activity will help you explore and define your views on some poultry-related ethical issues.

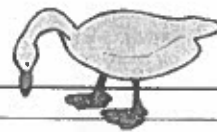
Take off!

Form a small group with other youths interested in poultry and discuss at least three of the situations listed below. It would be helpful to have an adult or older youth present to help guide the discussion. Write a summary of the discussions you had, using the form below as a guide.



The Situations

1. Your older sister was very successful showing poultry as a 4-Her, but she is now too old to be in 4-H. She would still like to see her birds do well, though, so she has asked you to show them for her. She will do all the work: breeding, selection, feeding, washing, training, etc.; you would only need to enter the birds in classes under your own name and show them.
2. A few days before your county fair, you notice that your turkeys seem to have an upper respiratory infection. Your chickens had something similar last year, and the antibiotics you got from your veterinarian worked well. You have some of the antibiotics left over, so you decide to see if they will help clear up the infection in your turkeys. You really want to sell them in the market stock sale!
3. Whenever you go to your friend's house, you notice that her birds never have water. You always fill up their water troughs when you visit your friend and the birds immediately crowd around the water and drink for a long time. The coop is very dirty and has a strong smell, too.
4. You had planned to enter eggs at your county fair, but some of your hens stopped laying and you don't have enough eggs to make a dozen. You remember that your neighbor also has laying hens, so you decide to complete your entry by borrowing a few eggs from him.
5. You sell eggs to the public and pride yourself on having a clean and healthy product to sell. After gathering eggs one day, you leave the egg-gathering bucket in the coop overnight. When you find it the next day, you are angry with yourself for not refrigerating the eggs and decide to sell them anyway — you need the money to help buy feed!
6. You just hate to do your record book! It seems to mean much more to your parents than it does to you! You have put off updating it for several months and it is due tomorrow. Your mother tells you "Never mind, I'll do it myself!" She does it for you, you turn it in on time and it wins Top of Show at your fair. This qualifies you for additional competition and awards.
7. You have a bird that you hope can do very well in breed classes. Unfortunately, you notice that one of its nails is white, not black. This defect would disqualify the bird. Someone tells you to just paint the nail with black nail polish.



Names of participants _____

Situation discussed _____

Main ethical problem _____

What you would do

What others would do

Share with your helper

Crow about it

- How did you feel talking about your feelings and values with others?

Incubate ideas

- Why is it helpful to think about issues of ethics before you encounter them?

Spread your wings

- In addition to poultry topics, what other ethical topics could you discuss with your friends or family?

Un-coop your knowledge

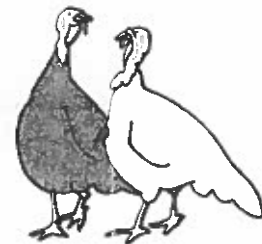
- Where would you go for help with an ethical problem if you didn't know how to handle it?



Developing Character

Character can be defined as who you are when no one is looking. When faced with an ethical decision ask, "Does the decision make me feel guilty, disappointed in myself, or anxious about what someone else might think? If a friend came to me for advice, would I recommend the same course of action I chose? Character and our sense of ethics also determine how we behave every day. You demonstrate proper ethics when you care for and show your birds in the following ways:

- Having the right facilities and equipment to care for your birds
- Providing the correct food and clean water for your birds
- Using only approved medications and following all medication directions properly
- Being honest in how you prepare your birds for show
- Showing your birds humanely and according to ethical standards
- Being the "owner and operator" of all aspects of your bird project
- Doing your own work
- Representing 4-H professionally at all times
- Serving as a positive role model to younger 4-H members and other youths
- Processing birds and handling eggs according to all proper food safety standards
- Slaughtering birds humanely



Eggstra Challenges

1. Have a more formal panel-type public discussion on an ethical topic.
2. Write a letter to the editor of your paper about a local ethical issue.