**Tips for Classroom Hatching**

Be sure to set up incubator away from windows, direct sunlight, and heat sources.

Don’t move or open the incubator unless absolutely necessary.

* If you do open the incubator, work quickly to keep humidity and temperature consistent.

We will help get incubator set up initially - this model is pretty automatic.

* Temperature should stay about 99.3 degrees
* Humidity should be around 40-50% during incubation:
	+ Check water daily.
	+ To raise humidity, add water above fill line to overflow the second inside chamber
	+ Have a plan for the weekend: Fill water completely on Friday. It’s a good idea to check once if possible.

On day 18-19 (2 days before hatching):

* Take out yellow turner tray and move eggs onto the cardboard egg hatching mat.
* Fill both inside chambers full of water to raise the humidity to 60% or higher.
* Turn off automatic turning mode (check the manual if you need help).

During hatching:

* Don’t help the chicks out of the eggs- let them struggle (it’s ok).
* Leave them in the incubator to dry off and get acclimated before opening the incubator, touching them, or taking them out.
* You may remove the chicks 12 hours or up to 24 hours after hatching. You may remove the eggshells at this time as well.

After hatching:

* 12+ hours after hatching - move chicks to cage with shavings, water, feed, and heat lamp.
* Be sure to dip their beaks in the water and the feed so they know it’s there.
* Check that they are warm and have plenty of fresh water and feed available.
* You may carefully handle the chicks- they love socializing!

**Always be sure to wash your hands when done handling eggs or chicks! Have fun!**