

Parents and Teachers,

This colouring book has been prepared by the B.C. Chicken Growers as an educational tool for your child/students to learn about the chicken industry.

Farming remains a vibrant business in British Columbia. It is important that future generations continue to learn about its significance to our community in terms of animal husbandry, economics, health and environmental issues.

Increased biosecurity measures in our industry have limited the accessibility of visitors and school field trips to B.C. Farms. We hope that the story and pictures in this book will capture the children's interest and help them understand what happens on a modern chicken farm in British Columbia.

As there is much more to farming chickens in B.C. than is covered in this booklet, we invite you to visit our website at www.bcchicken.ca for further information, games and recipes.





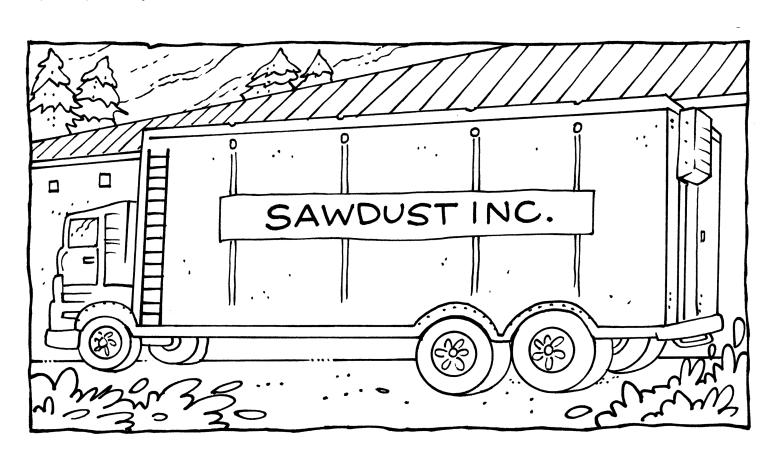
Written by Elsie Lapinsky Drawings by Jeff Sinclair

Brayden and Nadia were very excited.

School was almost over for the year and they were going to stay at Uncle Fred's farm for the whole summer.

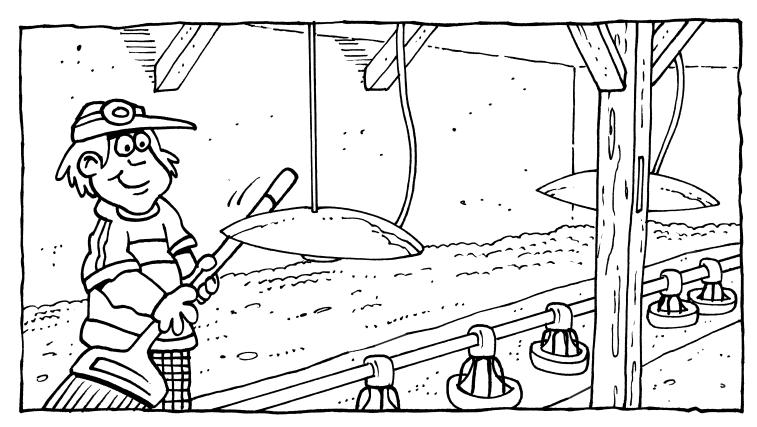
When the last day of school was finally over, Mom drove over to Uncle Fred's farm. Brayden and Nadia unpacked their bags and went outside to see what was happening on the farm.

Today, there was a big truck blowing sawdust into the barn. Brayden knew this meant that there would be a new batch of chicks coming soon. Nadia was excited. She loved little chicks. They were so soft and fluffy. She liked to gently hold them in her hands.



The next day, another truck brought feed to the farm.

Brayden and Uncle Fred spent the day getting the barns ready for the new chicks. The barn was nice and clean and Brayden's job was to rake the sawdust so it would be easy for the chicks to walk to the feed and water.

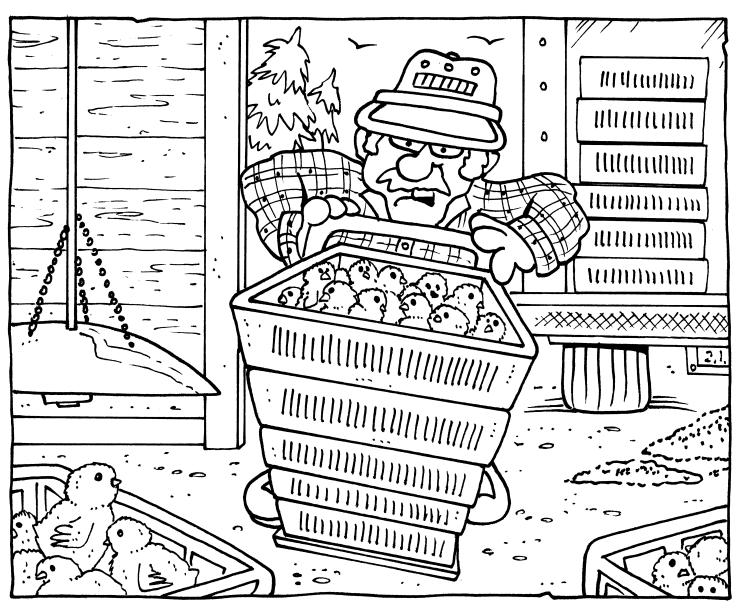


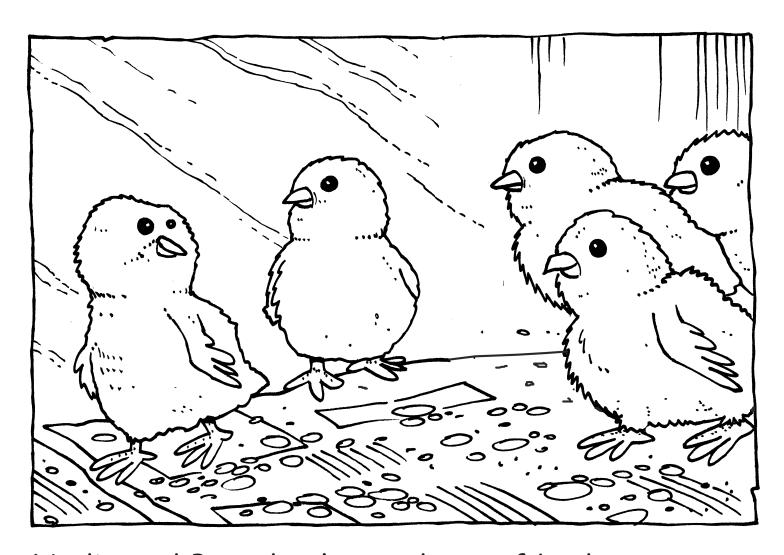
Nadia put paper down on top of the sawdust. She knew that the chicks would be too little to get into the feed pans when they came. The feed would be put right on top of the paper for a few days. Uncle Fred told her that chicks are brought to the farm on the same day that they hatch so they haven't had any feed or water until they are put in the barn.

It's very important that they can drink water and eat as soon as they get to the farm.

Uncle Fred started heating up the barn. Brayden and Nadia thought it was getting too hot but Uncle Fred explained that the chicks don't get their feathers until they are about two weeks old. The barns have to be very warm.

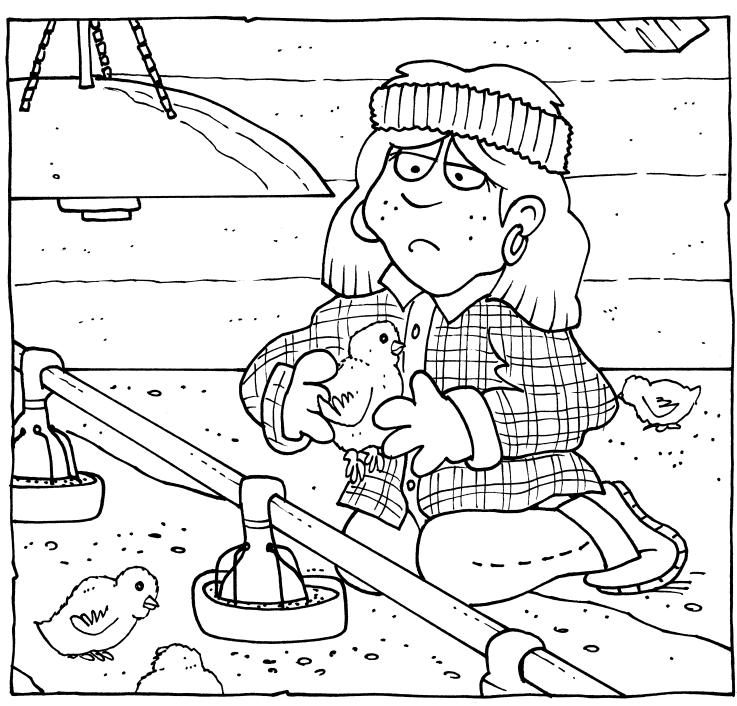
A few days later, Uncle Fred woke the kids up early. "The new chicks are here. The men from the hatchery are carrying them into the barn right now."





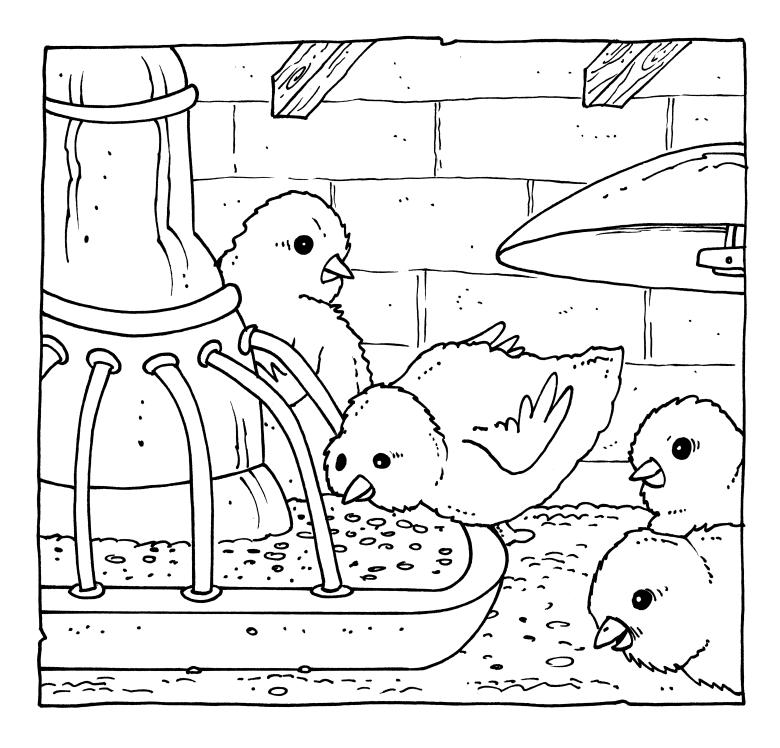
Nadia and Brayden hopped out of bed and ran out of the house without even eating their breakfast. There were two big trucks from the hatchery unloading the chicks. The chicks were in big plastic boxes and the men gently placed the chicks onto the feed that Nadia had put on the paper. One side of the barn didn't have any lights on. Uncle Fred said that was to keep the chicks close to the heat. He said all the lights would be turned on in a few days and then the chicks would run all over the barn, but right now they needed to stay close to the heat and the feed under the lights.

Nadia was worried. The chicks weren't moving around too much and she knew they should drink and eat. Some of them were running around but most of them weren't moving too far away from where the men had placed them. Uncle Fred was busy and told her to close the door so the chicks could settle down.





After the hatchery trucks left, Brayden noticed how hungry he was. They went inside and ate breakfast. Nadia was very quiet. She was worried about the chicks.



A few hours later, they all went back to see how the chicks were doing. Nadia was so happy. They looked like they were enjoying their new home. They had started moving around. Some were pecking at the water and others were eating the feed.



Uncle Fred smiled. He knew that in a few days they would be running all over the barn and Nadia would have to be careful not to step on them. They were going to take very good care of these chicks.

Chicken Word Search

Find each of the following words.

ROOSTER PECK FLOCK WATER HEN

F	F	У	5	K	I	N	F	С	С	W	E
Α	N	E	L	С	W	Т	L	0	W	Α	У
Н	F	L	E	L	I	W	0	R	Α	Т	F
Е	Е	L	G	Α	N	В	С	N	Т	Α	Н
N	Α	0	G	W	G	Α	K	В	Ε	, A	K
Т	Т	W	K	5	5	R	W	Α	R	M	K
5	Н	Α	Т	С	Н	N	Р	Е	С	K	Е
0	Е	Т	F	L	U	F	F	У	Н	5	I
F	R	0	0	5	Т	Е	R	У	0	L	K
Т	5	Е	K	W	0	5	L	Ε	0	Н	Р

