



# SVRTC NEWSLETTER

## Winter 2014



**MISSION:** The Southside Virginia Regional Technology Consortium will assist members with coordinating the acquisition and effective integration of viable up-to-date and emerging technologies, valuable training for K-12 students, staff and other citizens in our communities to enhance learning at all levels and encourage economic development in Southside Virginia.

### ***In the Spotlight: Cumberland County Public Schools***

The third grade science classes at Cumberland Elementary School have been studying the physical and behavioral adaptations of a chicken, starting with the egg, to the developing chick, to the adult chicken. Students started an embryology project with 30 eggs scheduled to hatch on January 28. Students began by cracking open an egg and listing all the adaptations they found inside. They watched in complete amazement as over 20 textbooks were stacked on top of a flat of eggs without



crushing a single egg!

Students also used vinegar to create a "naked egg." They looked at the developing

chick and identified several adaptations, both physical and behavioral, that ensure its survival. Students also studied the behavior and physique of an adult chicken and researched their adaptations.

Next, using a candle, students predicted the hatch rate. Then they watched the baby chicks



demonstrate some of those adaptations during the hatching/brooding time of their development. The tech team also installed a webcam over the brooder to allow the entire school (and community) to view the chicks hatching and brooding.



In the final stages of the project, students will also select a breed of chicken to research, listing adaptations unique to that breed and drawing a picture of the chicken and its egg. A PowerPoint that contains the researched information will be created during technology resource. Lastly, the students will present the PowerPoint and drawings to the class and then evaluate each other using a peer rubric.

**Try this GREAT WEBSITE for  
STEM resources:**

**LIVEBINDER:** 100+ STEM Resources:  
<http://goo.gl/wuYBCf>

### **Save the Date**

**SVRTC Awards Deadline:** Feb. 28  
**NCTIES:** March 5-7 -- Raleigh, NC  
**GAFE:** March 8-9 – Charlottesville  
**VCTM:** March 14-15 – JMU  
**SVRTC Awards Banquet:** March 27 -- LU

