



Quail vs. Ticks Study

Annual Spring Science



Community Conservation Project,
STEM & Common Core Aligned.
Bringing conservation home...

The Quail vs. Ticks Study is an educational opportunity to teach students about our local ecology, predator-prey relationships, animal life cycles, egg incubation, chick brooding, habitat restoration, and doing something good for the environment... through hands-on inquiry learning.

www.YC2N.com

Getting Involved...

Quail vs. Ticks Study Goals:

- To teach about humans impact on our local ecosystems and what we can do to help.
- To give participants the chance to make a positive difference for the environment.
- To release Northern Bobwhite Quail in the hopes of bringing back these native birds.
- To control tick populations via the Northern Bobwhite Quail, a natural tick predator.
- To research and learn about the impact of domestic cats on our ground-dwelling birds and other wildlife.
- To give people a deeper understanding about their environment, and how a healthy environment helps everyone!



What will you need to get started?

1. NYS DEC Collect/Possess License per site.
2. Egg Incubator or build your own in the STEM Incubator Class Challenge!
3. Brooder (20 gal glass tank, screen lid, heating lamp, 3" soil, food dish, ground up Wild Game-Bird Starter Food, water dish with marbles).
4. Transportation (Cat carrier or cardboard box with air holes).

NOTE: Video tutorials are available on our YouTube Channel by searching for "YC2N"

Annual Timeline:

- ▶ **January:** Permit Paperwork.
- ▶ **February:** Order eggs for April delivery.
- ▶ **March:** Set-up Incubator (Possible STEM challenge) and Brooder.
- ▶ **April:** In-school **Bobwhite Quail Presentation** by Ranger Eric (Recommended!). Our in-school program will detail the life cycle of Quail, their ecology, why we started this project in 2003, and how it can help our environment. Also, included with the presentation is the Quail Journal for students, Tick Information, & free Teacher Support.
- ▶ **April:** Begin egg incubation.
- ▶ **May:** Eggs hatch, begin chick brooding.
- ▶ **May:** Donate your 2-week old chicks to the main flight pen at Caleb Smith State Park, Smithtown, NY.
- ▶ **June:** Last Saturday of June is typically the big Quail Release and is open to the general public, with special invitations to all participants and their families.

NOTE: Eggs incubated in May will be released in July at subsequent releases at other sites around Long Island and may or may not be open to the public.

Contact Us

Your Connection To Nature

www.YC2N.com

YC2N@me.com