

EBSOC Out & About: Flu Lab



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
Easter Bush
Science Outreach Centre

In this hands-on, experimental workshop, students will use real laboratory techniques to identify chickens that are infected with bird flu.

Overview

There is a constant risk of bird flu in the UK's farmed chickens from wild birds, such as ducks. Flu is caused by a virus called influenza, and it is highly contagious. Rapid detection of bird flu outbreaks and isolation of infected animals is extremely important.

During this workshop, pupils will use micropipettes and other lab equipment to help them perform a mock diagnostic test for flu. The hands-on workshop will cover some of the science behind flu diagnosis.

The pupils will have the opportunity to speak with and interact with professional scientist from The Roslin Institute, who are working together to understand how flu affects farmed chickens and other animals.


Brief Description of Work

A hands-on workshop, which includes the following techniques:

1. Using micropipettes
2. Carrying out a mock diagnostic test (colour change assay)

Workshop outline

- Introduction to flu
- Introduction to micropipettes
- Mock diagnostic test (colour change assay)
- Assess and interpret experimental results
- Discussion with professional scientists who are working to understand how infectious diseases affect livestock and how to prevent them, and about their work and career path.



Get hands-on
with real-life
science