



# Virtual Chicken

## The Female Reproductive Tract

[www.virtualchicken.org](http://www.virtualchicken.org)

### Lab: Shaped for a Reason

The egg is smaller at one end and has only one symmetry axis.

#### Materials

6 eggs, raw or hard-cooked

#### Procedure

Put the eggs, narrow end in, in a circular fashion like the picture.

Observe the pros and cons of the shape.



### Thinking About It

The reason why eggs are shaped like they are is often discussed.

This is one of the strongest shapes

In a hen's nest, all of the eggs can have the most surface area touching each other, thereby conserving precious heat needed for development.

If an egg rolls, it will roll in a circle around the pointed end. For birds that have nests on cliffs, the egg is very pointed. This will make them roll in a very tight little circle and not roll out of the nest.

