

Evidence from Embryology

Timing is Everything

Can you tell a chicken from a fish? How about a human from a pig? Sure you can, you say. Chickens have wings, fish have fins, humans have arms and pigs have hoofs. But what about when they are just starting to form? The drawings below represent three developmental stages of five different animals. They have been all mixed up -- see if you can tell what's what.

Procedure

1. See if you can correctly match the embryos with the animals, placing them in order from earliest to latest stages of development. Record in the chart below.

	fish	chick	pig	calf	human
stage 1					
stage 2					
stage 3					

2. What are some similarities among the drawings? What are some differences?
3. What, if any, patterns do you see as you go from stage 1 to stage 3?
4. What cards were the most difficult to organize? Explain.