

How much humidity is needed? Enough humidity is needed to maintain a wet bulb temperature of about 85 to 87 degrees F (50-55 percent relative humidity). This is normally attained if water channels or cups in incubator are kept full.

Using a wet-bulb thermometer is a good learning experience for determining relative humidity. The wet-bulb thermometer measures the evaporative cooling event. If the wet and dry bulb read the same temperature, you would have 100 percent humidity. The greater the evaporation taking place, the lower the temperature reading on the wet-bulb thermometer and the larger the spread will be between the wet- and dry-bulb reading.

To make a wet-bulb thermometer, just add a wet cotton cloth (a paper towel will work) to the end of a thermometer. Place the wet-bulb thermometer next to the dry-bulb thermometer and wait till the wet-bulb thermometer stabilizes.

The Hand2mind worksheet does a great job explaining this. There is a second chart to use as well.