

Pennsylvania Trout In the Classroom



Program Overview

Pennsylvania Trout In the Classroom (TIC) is an interdisciplinary program that introduces coldwater conservation education in Pennsylvania schools by raising trout from eggs to fingerlings.

The program helps to:

- Foster awareness of coldwater conservation in students grades 3–12 and;
- Encourage participation in coldwater resource projects and recreation programs.

PA TIC is made possible through a partnership between Pennsylvania Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, and Pennsylvania Department of Education's Environment and Ecology.

The partnership provides:

- Technical assistance, website and teacher forum;
- Grant opportunities;
- Trout eggs and food;
- Curriculum, aquarium resources and workshops.

Classroom Objectives

Students will:

1. Raise trout by observing and monitoring a coldwater ecosystem in a classroom aquarium;
2. Identify stages of the trout lifecycle;
3. Recognize PA's State Fish, the Brook Trout, as "indicator species" for healthy coldwater streams;
4. Describe conditions needed for trout survival in your classroom aquarium and in nature.

Getting Started

Step 1: Learn more about PA TIC

Visit www.patrountintheclassroom.org

Step 2: "Partner up"

Find a program partner willing to help you with your program (*i.e. trout unlimited, watershed associations, conservation districts*).

Program partners enhance TIC programs through in-class programs, local watershed projects and technical assistance.

Step 3: Secure funds

Initial program costs = \$1,000—\$1,200.00.

Step 4: Register online

Register by June 30th of each year.

Step 5: Attend a TIC workshop (*new teachers*)

Find a workshop on our PATIC webpage.



Photo – Christine
Fernandes (TIC Teacher)

TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM TIMELINE

<p>AUGUST - SEPTEMBER</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review TIC webpage and TIC curriculum resources to assist in development/tailoring your curricula needs with the TIC program • Set up your aquarium and make sure equipment works • Join TIC FaceBook Group
<p>OCTOBER - DECEMBER</p>	<p>Life Stage – Egg arrival, incubation & hatching</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive trout eggs (mid-October to early November – arrival depends on our hatchery trout. Teachers will receive an email in September informing of expected egg arrival time.) • Observe, monitor and record classroom, coldwater ecosystem and compare to local your coldwater streams
<p>FEBRUARY</p>	<p>Life Stage: Swim-up fry to fry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PATU TIC grant round opens
<p>FEBRUARY - MAY</p>	<p>Life Stage: Fry to fingerling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PATU TIC grants due and awarded • Plan release day activities • Release trout into a “Stocked Trout Waterway” (ONLY)
<p>JUNE - AUGUST</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register online for upcoming school year • Complete end-of-year report online • New TIC teachers attend TIC workshop • Conduct aquarium end-of-year clean-up • Prepare for upcoming TIC school year

Curriculum Connections

Participants tailor TIC to fit their classroom needs; therefore, each TIC program is unique.

A variety of activities have been correlated to Pennsylvania’s stat science and math standards, as well as, the environment and ecology standards.

Other subject connections: social studies, reading, writing, arts, geography and physical education.

Funding Opportunities

PA Council of Trout Unlimited provides “existing” grants to current TIC teachers each year.

Check out the PATIC webpage – “Funding Sources” page for more options/funding ideas!

More information

PA TIC program

Website: www.patrouintheclassroom.org

Phone: (814) 359-5127

Email: RA-troutclass@pa.gov

PA TIC grant program

Website: www.patrouintheclassroom.org

Phone: (814) 359-5114

Email: info@patrouintheclassroom.org



Photo – Christine Fernandes (TIC Teacher)



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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION