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 brook trout, a native coldwater species, 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;
- Brook trout eggs and trout food;
- Curriculum, aquarium resources and workshops.

Classroom Objectives

Students will:

1. Raise brook trout by observing and monitoring a coldwater ecosystem in a classroom aquarium;
2. Identify stages of the brook trout lifecycle;
3. Recognize brook trout as “indicator species” for healthy coldwater streams;
4. Describe conditions needed for brook trout survival in your classroom aquarium and in nature.

Getting Started

Step 1: Learn more about PA TIC
Visit www.patroutintheclassroom.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 11th of each year.

Step 5: Attend a TIC workshop (new teachers)
A TIC workshop is held every June.

www.patroutintheclassroom.org
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<th>TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM TIMELINE</th>
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| **SEPTEMBER**                    | • Aquarium set-up  
• Implement TIC curriculum map and activities  
• Join the TIC forum/message board |
| **OCTOBER - NOVEMBER**           | **Life Stage: Egg arrival, incubation & hatching**  
• Complete egg confirmation form  
• Begin observation, monitoring and recording of aquarium ecosystem |
| **FEBRUARY**                     | **Life Stage: Swim-up fry to fry**  
• PATU TIC grant round opens |
| **FEBRUARY - MAY**               | **Life Stage: Fry to fingerling**  
• PATU TIC grants due and awarded  
• Plan release day activities  
• Release trout into an approved stream |
| **JUNE - AUGUST**                | • 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 “start-up” grants for new teachers and “existing” grants to current TIC teachers each year.

**More information**

**PA TIC program**

Website: [www.patfoutinthecllassroom.org](http://www.patfoutinthecllassroom.org)  
Phone: (814) 359-5127  
Email: info@patfoutinthecllassroom.org

**PA TIC grant program**

Website: [www.patfoutinthecllassroom.org](http://www.patfoutinthecllassroom.org)  
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