



Clyde in the Classroom® 2006 Newsletter Special

Update

Clyde in the Classroom® is a registered trademark of the Clyde River Foundation (CRF). The CRF is a registered charity which researches the ecology of the Clyde and its tributaries, and promotes environmental education throughout the catchment. Clyde in the Classroom uses the life cycle of the brown trout to provide hands-on experience of fish biology and river ecology.

This year, 1111 pupils from 44 schools in 9 local authority areas participated. The table below shows how many schools and pupils have participated in each local authority since 2001.

	Number of Classes	Number of pupils
East Dunbartonshire	10	284
East Renfrewshire	20	556
Glasgow	64	1650
Inverclyde	2	43
North Lanarkshire	9	254
Renfrewshire	35	1023
South Lanarkshire	10	221
West Dunbartonshire	12	336
West Lothian	2	35
GRAND TOTAL	164	4402

This year also saw the beginning of a sister project in Clackmannanshire called 'Fish go to School' which involved six classes from five primary schools.

Award Winning

Clyde in the Classroom won an award from BAA Glasgow in celebration of Glasgow Airports 40th Birthday. The FAB 40 Community Award was given in recognition of

the importance of the project in raising environmental awareness.

Also, Yoker Primary was delighted to be awarded a Partnership Grant from the Royal Society to allow them to take part and wish to pass on their thanks to the Society for its generosity.

Facts

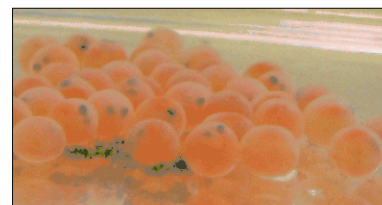
Four launch days were held at the Glasgow Science Centre in January during which the pupils enjoyed two talks about the River Clyde and its fish and were told how to look after their eggs.

Pupils seeing eggs and alevins for the first time!



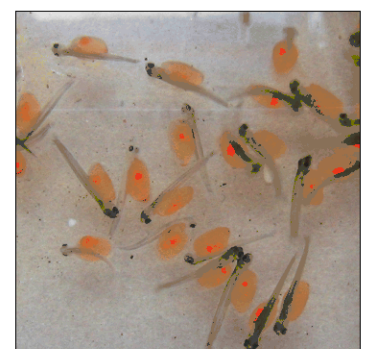
At the beginning of February the classroom hatcheries were installed, and the eggs arrived a week later.

After a few weeks you can see the changes from egg through to alevin.



Eyed Eggs - If you look closely you can see the eyes, they look like two black dots

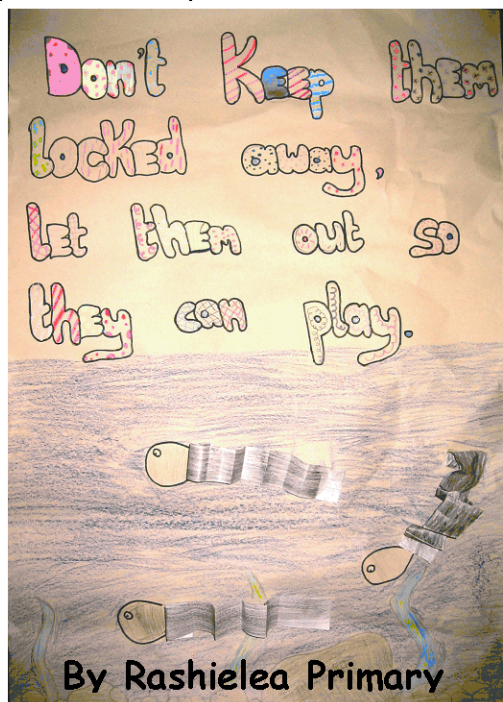
The newly hatched alevins opposite are only a few days old! You can now see their eyes head & tail with their yolk sac attached.



Release Days

Once again the release days were considered to be both the best and saddest day for many involved. The fish were set free, however, as we had come to know our fish it was still sad to see them swim off.

This was summed up by Rashielea Primary's competition entry:



Below we can see St Aidans getting ready to release their fish into the South Calder while Cadder and Wyndford Primaries get a talk on river safety at Pollok Country Park.

St Aidans Primary



Cadder & Wyndford Primaries

Competition

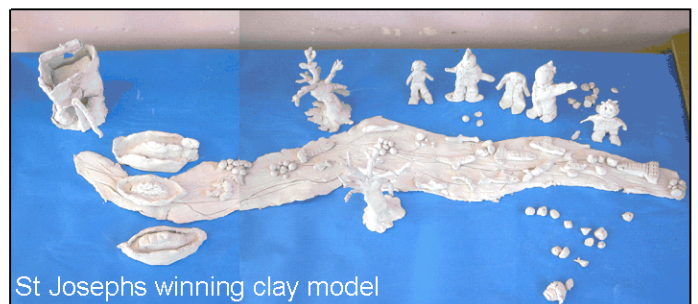
The competition this year was entitled

"The Spirit of Clyde in the Classroom"

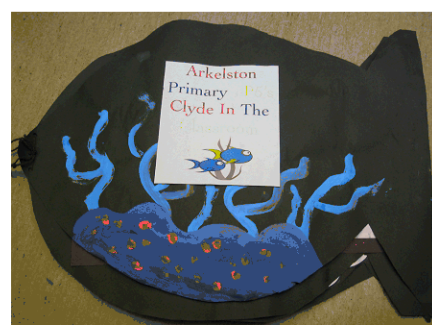
Pupils had to submit one entry per class which they felt best described the project. The entries were of the highest standard and therefore judging was very difficult! We are pleased to announce that the winning school was.....

St Josephs Primary

Well Done! St Joseph's entry is shown below which portrays the working River Clyde. It illustrates the Finneston Crane, representing the Clyde Shipyards; Ships at Sail, displaying how the river has been used and was very important in the shipping industry; trees, to depict the habitats found along the river, and people, who represent the towns and cities. All these factors are important to both the welfare of the towns and the people, as well as to the trout. It shows that it is possible for both people and fish/animals to co-exist when care and respect for other forms of life is taken into consideration. It was hand moulded entirely from clay by the pupils.

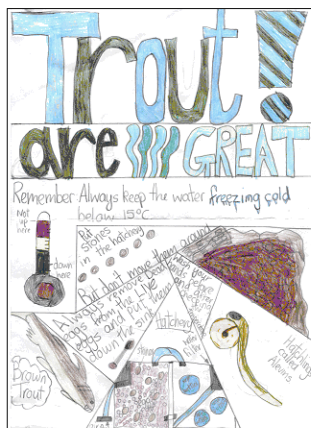
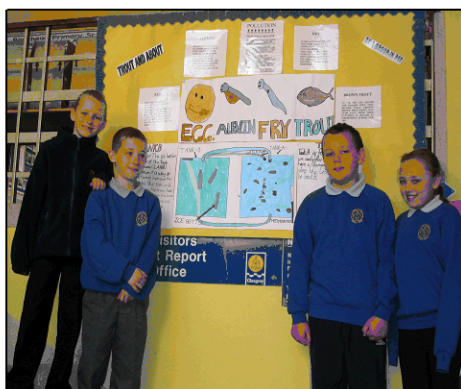


As you will see the other entries we received were excellent and everyone should be very proud of what they achieved.



Arkleston Primary produced a 'Fish Book' which contained many excellent drawings, poems & paintings.

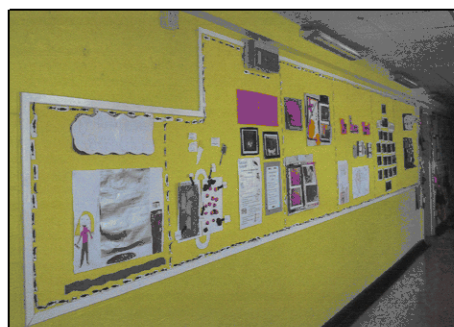
Bankhead Primary produced booklets and information boards as well as giving presentations to the rest of the school.



Blairdardie Primary produced this wonderful poster informing us how to look after the fish.

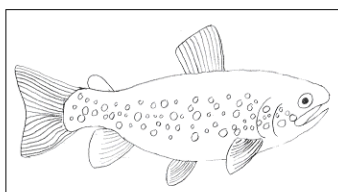


Our Lady of Loretto were sew inspired to make a patchwork quilt depicting all the fish that they successfully raised, named and released.



Carolside made this wall frieze which told you about the fish and even what they were called.

This drawing is taken from Garrowhill's report which contained many excellent artworks and poetry.

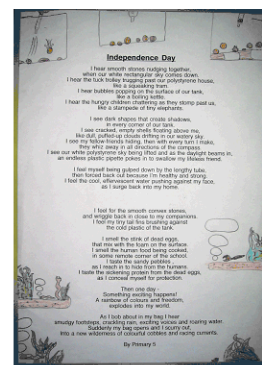


Glenburn's interpretation of our logo made from lentils, tissue paper and glitter.



St Aidans produced this colourful display of poems, drawings, information & even wishes for the fish!

St James's composed a poem entitled 'Independence day' which describes the feeling the trout might experience while in the class before they are released into the river. This was an outstanding piece of work. See overleaf for readable version.



Fair Freedom

Alan is a tiny orange bead,
A bit of rubber flicked across the class,
A delicate pompom sent from the sun,
A petrifying eyeball staring up at us.

Flipper is a small bendy pencil
With a rubber on the end,
An orange bud starting to sprout,
A snake slithering
Sluggishly,
Sometimes
Stationary.
A game of tetris
In
Slow
Motion.

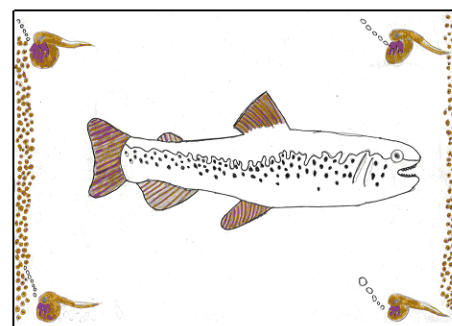


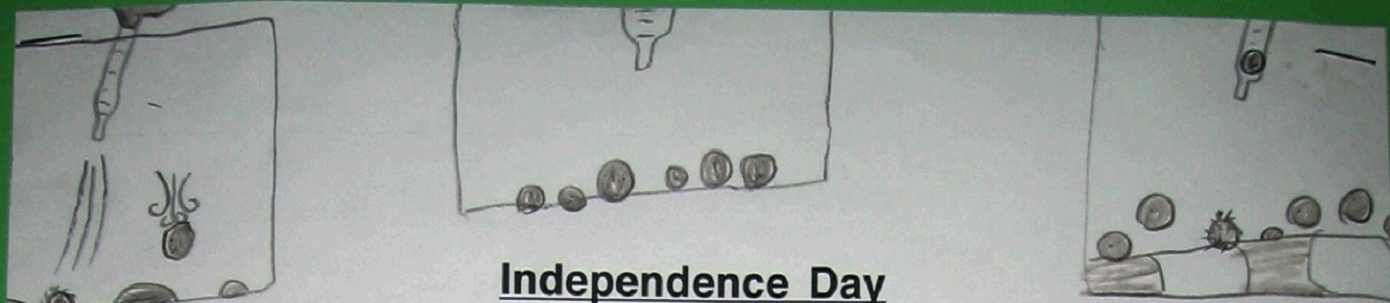
Tommy is a brand new rubber,
An Olympic runner, carrying the torch,
A jet-propelled monster car
Headed for Pollok Park
And FREEDOM.

By the children of P4/5, Cadder Primary School

Our second poem was submitted by Cadder Primary, which again proved that we have some very talented poets in our midst....

This drawing is taken from Yoker's portfolio which also contained a DVD movie detailing the different stages of the project.





Independence Day

I hear smooth stones nudging together,
when our white rectangular sky comes down.
I hear the tuck trolley trugging past our polystyrene house,
like a squeaking tram.
I hear bubbles popping on the surface of our tank,
like a boiling kettle.
I hear the hungry children chattering as they stomp past us,
like a stampede of tiny elephants.

I see dark shapes that create shadows,
in every corner of our tank.
I see cracked, empty shells floating above me,
like dull, puffed-up clouds drifting in our watery sky.
I see my fellow-friends hiding, then with every turn I make,
they whiz away in all directions of the compass.
I see our white polystyrene sky being lifted and as the daylight beams in,
an endless plastic pipette pokes in to swallow my lifeless friend.

I feel myself being gulped down by the lengthy tube,
then forced back out because I'm healthy and strong.
I feel the cool, effervescent water pushing against my face,
as I surge back into my home.

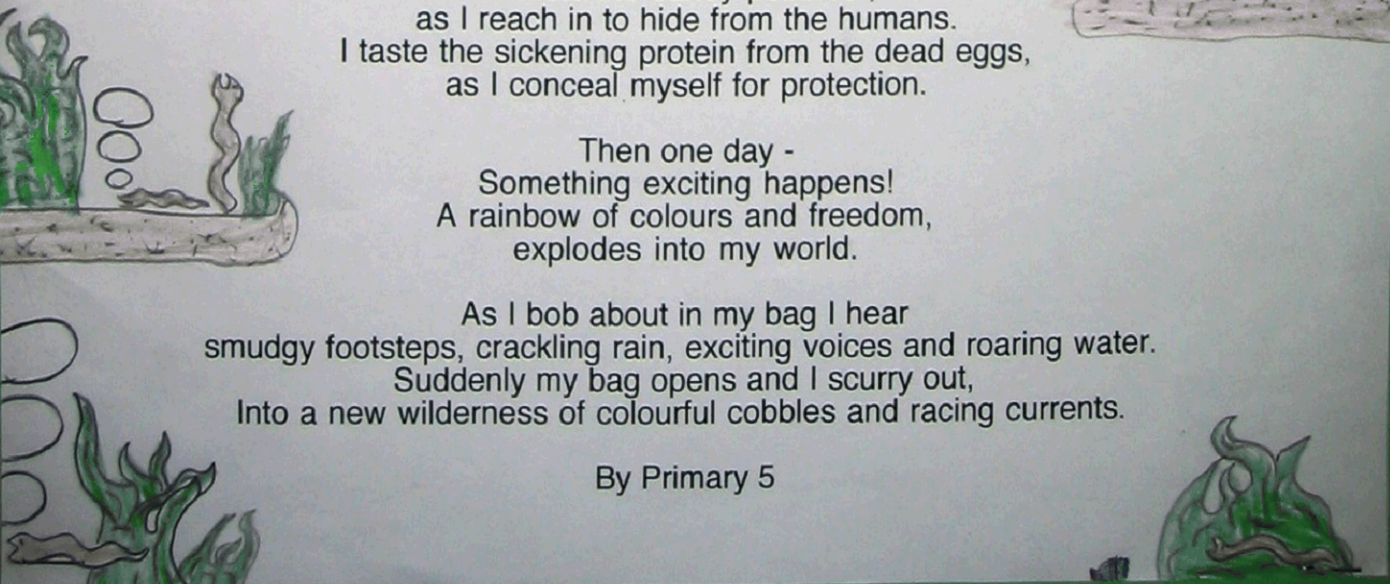
I feel for the smooth convex stones,
and wriggle back in close to my companions.
I feel my tiny tail fins brushing against
the cold plastic of the tank.

I smell the stink of dead eggs,
that mix with the foam on the surface.
I smell the human food being cooked,
in some remote corner of the school.
I taste the sandy pebbles ,
as I reach in to hide from the humans.
I taste the sickening protein from the dead eggs,
as I conceal myself for protection.

Then one day -
Something exciting happens!
A rainbow of colours and freedom,
explodes into my world.

As I bob about in my bag I hear
smudgy footsteps, crackling rain, exciting voices and roaring water.
Suddenly my bag opens and I scurry out,
Into a new wilderness of colourful cobbles and racing currents.

By Primary 5



Teachers Notes

The following quotes are from teachers involved this year. As you can see it was enjoyed by all for many different reasons.

"Good fun - good to use for recording temperature and graphs."

M. Brown, Arkleston Primary

"Children have worked hard to enable themselves to carry out some independent learning."

C. Robertson, Bankhead Primary

"The children thoroughly enjoyed the responsibility of looking after the trout and recording the temperature on the graph and enjoyed watching the eggs hatch."

L. Melrose, Blairdardie Primary

"The whole project was extremely worthwhile for all of the children in my class!"

M. Morris, Carolside Primary

"Interesting, gave children responsibility."

Ms Forbes, Douglas Primary

"Excellent, everyone enjoyed it. S2 felt sad but it was nice because they went back to their own environment."

P. Park, Firpark School

"Children enjoyed it. It was at the right time as we were doing life processes for Science."

G. McCracken, Gallowhill Primary

"Pupils are still talking about the trout, e.g. 'where are they?', 'what they'll be doing?', etc."

S. Gilles, Glenburn School

"A wonderful opportunity for the children. The children's hard work and effort paid off."

K. McGeoch, Howwood Primary

"Brilliant idea - hands on approach children will never forget. Engenders respect for environment and a great foundation for other aspects of curriculum."

G. McRae, Moorpark Primary

"The children learned responsibility for living things, and that will better equip them for the future. A good citizenship project."

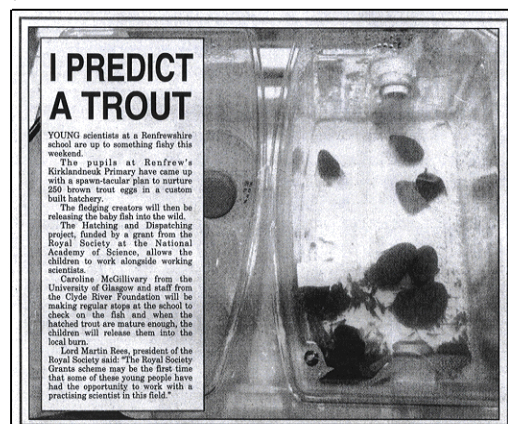
M. Russell, St Bridgets Primary

"Children fascinated to see the trout being released in their local environment and this helped the project be even more relevant to them."

E. Hamilton, Yoker Primary

Hot off the Press

Below are some of the articles which were published in our local newspapers, can you spot yourself?????



Kirklandneuk Primary featured in Gazette Group, March 15th.



Bankhead in the Clydebank Post

Yoker Pupils releasing their trout into the Garscadden Burn recorded by the Evening times.



Volunteers

Once again I would like to thank our volunteers who have helped us deliver Clyde in the Classroom to the schools. Each volunteer visited their school every week to double check everything was functioning correctly and to answer any questions the teacher or pupils may have had. Our feedback from the schools confirmed that the weekly visits were much appreciated. So may I offer a huge thank you to

Peter Roderickson, Alex Grozier, Harry Crossthwaite, Heather Sinclair and Andy Young.

Sponsors

We could not run Clyde in the Classroom without financial assistance. We are extremely grateful to our supporters, for providing the funding which has brought Clyde in the Classroom to 119 different schools to date.

Clyde in the Classroom 2006 was supported by BAA Glasgow Airport Ltd, Cobb Charity, Clydesdale Conservatories, Cruden Foundation Ltd, East Dunbartonshire Council, East Renfrewshire Council, Ernest Cook Trust, Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust, Hagshaw Hill Windfarm Trust, Helen and Geoffrey de Freitas Charitable Trust, Glasgow City Council, Glasgow Science Centre, Inverclyde Council, Susan H Guy Charitable Trust, James Thom Howat Charitable Trust, Lady Eda Jardine Charitable Trust, John Spedan Lewis Foundation, Ian Mactaggart Trust, W M Mann Foundation, Merchants' House of Glasgow, North Lanarkshire Council, Inverclyde Council, J S F Pollitzer Charitable Settlement, Renfrewshire Council, Robertson Trust, Scottish Business Achievement Awards Trust, South Lanarkshire Council,

Scottish Natural Heritage, Swire Charitable Trust, United Clyde Angling Protective Association Ltd, David Uri Memorial Trust, West Dunbartonshire Council, West Lothian Council, H D H Wills 1965 Charitable Trust, and James Wood Bequest Fund.

Contact Us

If you would like more information or would like to participate in 2007 please contact us at

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E-mail c.mcgillivray@bio.gla.ac.uk

Thank You

A pupil from Whitecrook has the final word!

whitecrook primary
cochno st
clayde bank G81
30.3.06
Dear caroline
We thank you for
helping us releasing the fish into the
wild. I am a little sad I am sorry
the first lot died. I enjoyed
naming. the fish I called my
fish Gary and paul. I hope
other schools continue to do
this.
yours Sincerely
Greg Davidson
(P5)

