



Clyde in the Classroom 2015 NEWS

WELCOME We were delighted to welcome our **20,000th pupil to Clyde in the Classroom in our biggest year to date.** A total of 107 classes from 96 schools across the eight counties of the catchment participated, totalling 2887 pupils. Dr Willie Yeomans, Catchment Manager with the Clyde River Foundation said "to continue to grow year on year shows the real demand for education initiatives that connect children with their environment." This year's project had a very green theme - from our new reusable fish containers, to the eco bag design competition. In Glasgow, the project was part of the Year of Green 2015 celebration. We would like to thank everyone who took part and hope you enjoy catching up on the news from Clyde in the Classroom 2015!



"Such a real life, hands-on opportunity with real experts. Not only did we learn about the life cycle of a brown trout, but we tied in pollution, rivers, the Clyde, geography, rivers of Scotland, the uses of a river, temperature and food webs, not to mention ALL the skills for learning, life and work as published by Education Scotland."

Mrs Noble, Ardgowan Primary School, Greenock

2015 LAUNCH Clyde in the Classroom 2015 was launched at Glasgow Science Centre over two weeks in January. Each day the Clyde River Foundation and Glasgow Science Centre welcomed hundreds of children for a project introduction and general science fun! Pupils were introduced to their soon-to-be classmate, the brown trout and its fascinating life cycle. They learned about hatchery care and had a sneak preview of some live trout eggs. But the day wasn't just about brown trout; from European eels to American signal crayfish, pupils learned all about the ecology of the River Clyde ahead of their eco-adventure.

PUPIL LAUNCH DAY FEEDBACK

Had great fun (80%)
Enjoyed most of the day (16%)
Thought it was okay (3%)
Didn't like it (1%)
(response from 83 classes = 2029 children)

FUNDRAISING Schools raise a third of the project costs and this year we saw some incredibly innovative fundraising! Ardgowan P6/5 raised twice their target; class teacher Mrs Noble said: "the children started their own business with a £1 loan from the school. They developed a business plan and made their own products to sell." Baljaffray P4 were sponsored as "effective contributors" around the home, while Holy Family P5 set up a name-a-fish scheme.



Record of Fundraising Tasks		
To be an Effective Contributor within my household I will:		
Task Explanation	Sponsor	Amount sponsored per day
helped tidy the house	Mum	50p
sorted the washing	Mum	25p x 2
hoovered my room		25p x 1



www.clydeinthe classroom.com

SPECIAL DELIVERY

After a trial of practicing with a fish-free hatchery, it was time for the eggs! They made their journey from Howietoun Fish Farm to schools in January. Each class received 200 brown trout eggs - with 107 classes taking part, that's 21,400 in total!



TROUT GUARDIANS

The pupils were responsible for ensuring the conditions in the hatchery mimicked those of a healthy Scottish river while the fish developed in their artificial redd. Just like in the wild, the water had to be cool, clean and running.

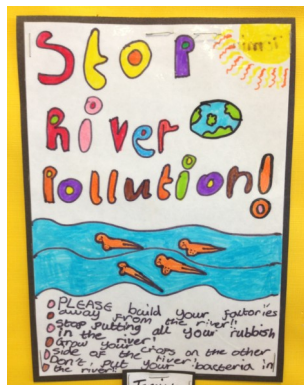
From temperature control to removal of dead eggs, pupils worked round the clock to care for their fishy classmates. As always, we were impressed to see such amazing dedication from this year's trout guardians!



For the 22 participating schools in Glasgow, Clyde in the Classroom coincided with **Glasgow's Year of Green 2015**.

The transformation of the River Clyde from a heavily polluted river to a 'recovering river' where wildlife can thrive fits perfectly with the 'from Steam to Green' theme of the year.

See www.greenglasgow.com for more.



Poster from Saracen Primary 4



Pupils from Dalmarnock P6 with their brown trout hatchery. Note the carefully-recorded temperature chart on the wall!

"This project has made a huge impact on all the children in our class. However, it has made an immeasurable difference to some. I have one pupil in particular who has a difficult home life and displays very challenging, aggressive behaviour. This child has managed to totally change their behaviour as a direct result of having the fish. The child was given special duties which they carried out with care and has managed to continue on the right track since."

Class Teacher from a Glasgow Primary School

FISH RELEASE DAYS

Come March the fish were ready to leave the classroom! The children took their brown trout fry to their local tributary of the Clyde to set them free. Our new reusable trout-transporters proved to be a great alternative to plastic bags.



ECO BAG COMPETITION

This year we asked pupils to create a design for an eco bag based on the theme 'caring for the Clyde'. With over 600 entries, judging was not easy but there could only be one winner! Well done to Emma and P4/5 of Newark Primary School in Port Glasgow. We think Emma's colourful 'Care for your Clyde' design which features some unmistakable River Clyde landmarks captures the message wonderfully!



CITC ONLINE

Pupils and teachers communicated their Clyde in the Classroom experiences through Twitter, KidBlog and school websites. We loved finding out what happened in between our weekly visits!



"I have learned that young brown trout are called alevins, where the fresh water meets the salt water it is known as an estuary and the River Gryffe is a tributary of the Clyde."

"I really enjoyed the topic, my favourite part of it was getting to look after the fish and watching them grow week by week."

Pupil feedback, Bridge of Weir Primary School

"I found that the guidance from the website and teacher's pack were very helpful in implementing the project successfully. I was also felt very supported by the group through the weekly visits and communication through email. Willie who visited my class every week was very helpful and supportive."

Miss Crookes, St Serf's Primary School, Airdrie

MORE CITC NEWS...



This year we bumped into a former Clyde in the Classroom pupil at the launch event...now a teacher!

Welcome back Miss Toole!


Pupils from Golfhill Primary 6 (Airdrie) made some brilliant river and fish-themed board games during the project. Here P6 pupils are testing the games with some younger pupils.



Mr Urquhart organised an open afternoon for Wellshot Primary's fish release - it was great to see pupils sharing what they had learned!

HOW DID WE SCORE?

Below is a summary of the Clyde in the Classroom 2015 teacher feedback. We review your comments and scores every year to enhance the project experience. Thanks to all who have contributed!

REPORT CARD	
	Average Score (out of 5)
Project summary document	4.93
Teacher information pack	4.78
Launch day at Glasgow Science Centre	4.91
Lecture on fish populations	4.80
Lecture on trout hatchery	4.91
Delivery of hatchery	4.93
Weekly visits from CRF scientists	4.95
Project support and emergency response	4.93
Quality of buses	4.98
Release day	4.91
AVERAGE SCORE	4.9/5

PROJECT POSTERS

We produced personalised posters for each new school that participated in 2015. We hope they will be displayed for everyone to see the great achievements of those who took part! Here's p5/6 of Stane Primary School with theirs:



DONATION

We'd like to say a very special thank you to John Paul II Primary School for their generous donation of £500 which was presented to us in their charity assembly!



THANK YOU!

We would like to extend a huge thank you to all of our participating schools and project supporters for making Clyde in the Classroom 2015 possible. This year we received support from the following organisations:



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