



Clyde in the Classroom Newsletter 2018

WELCOME!

Over 2500 pupils successfully completed Clyde in the Classroom this year and we welcomed the 27,000th participant to the project. A total of 99 classes from 86 schools in nine counties participated in this stewardship-building project between January and March 2018.

Dr Willie Yeomans, Catchment Manager at the **Clyde River Foundation** said "Clyde in the Classroom reached a real milestone this year, with our 1000th class participating. The River Clyde is a recovering river which is still under pressure from human activities, so we are delighted to continue to promote stewardship of this important resource."

Thanks everyone who took part - we hope you enjoy catching up on the news from 2018!



Kildrum Primary School Pupils celebrate being the 1000th class to take part in Clyde in the Classroom

THE JOURNEY BEGINS...

In January pupils met with Clyde River Foundation scientists at **Glasgow Science Centre** for an introduction to the project. They were introduced to their soon-to-be classmate, the brown trout and its fascinating life cycle.



They learned about the ecology of the River Clyde and how to look after a brown trout hatchery. They also had the opportunity to explore the Science Mall! Classes which didn't make it to the Science Centre because of the wintry weather received a special visit from a Clyde River Foundation Scientist to launch the project.

TEACHERS' VIEWS

"The hands-on experience for the kids was fantastic. They felt like real scientists and learned so many skills. It promoted responsibility, fostered an enthusiasm for science, empowered the girls (who now know that there ARE real female scientists!)." **Colquhoun Park Primary School**

"This was a super project for engaging pupils...they were engaged in the whole process and took the responsibility of looking after the trout seriously. The group showed pride in talking to the rest of the school about the project." **Cedars School of Excellence**

"The children were given real life experience of nature at work and the children were also able to develop key skills e.g. measuring, scheduling (timetables), reporting etc. It also brought out a holistic caring side to their nature and helped to build team working skills." **Pirie Park Primary School**

"It gave the pupils more of an understanding about why river conservation is so important, as they had invested so much looking after the trout, and they didn't want anything to happen to them or their habitat." **Scotstoun Primary School**



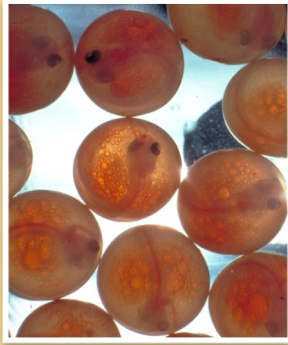
www.clydeinthe classroom.com



NEW CLASSMATES

After a trial of practising with a fish-free hatchery, it was time for the eggs!

They made their journey from Brow Well Fishery to schools in February. Each class received 200 brown trout eggs to care for in their hatcheries.



FINTASTIC FILM MAKERS

At the end of the project we invited classes to show off their science communication skills and create a film about their Clyde in the Classroom experience. We were overwhelmed by the high quality entries that we received—a big well done to everyone who entered! Some of the brilliant entries can be seen on our website.

Aultmore Park Primary School won a Meet Your River day for their class. The pupils loved seeing the fish that lived in the river, including brown trout! They also had the chance to take a kick-sample of invertebrates from the river, map the site and identify the trees. Back at school the class identified the invertebrates and made a poster about the health of the river.



**Aultmore Park primary
enjoying their prize**



TROUT GUARDIANS

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!

Even the snow couldn't stop our fabulous trout guardians and all their helpers—janitors, teachers and support staff—who came together to look after the fish when the schools were closed!



Pupils from St Peter's Primary School monitor their hatchery

"Witnessing the commitment shown by the children when caring for the brown trout and the delight when they finally released their little charges into the River Calder was great. The knowledge the children gained throughout the programme was invaluable and I'm sure it has been an experience they will never forget.."
Our Lady of Good Aid and Cathedral Primary

TO THE RIVER!

By early Spring the fish were ready to leave the classroom! The children took their brown trout fry to their local tributary of the River Clyde by foot, bus or underground train to set them free. Children were very proud to release their fish and keen to take better care of our rivers, especially if we spotted any litter at the river. It was great to see the next generation so inspired!



CLYDE CREATIVITY

Posters about pollution,
Ardgowan Primary School



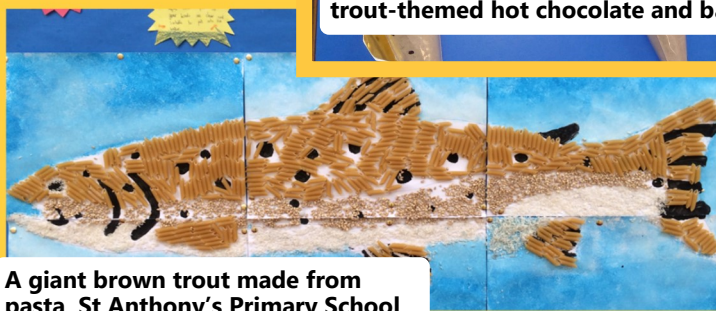
Clyde in the Classroom is a great science project but it lends itself to so many other areas of learning too. Here's just a few highlights from this year!



St Denis' pupils sharing their learning
with the school and parents



Entrepreneurs from Bankhead Primary sold
trout-themed hot chocolate and bags



A giant brown trout made from
pasta, St Anthony's Primary School

"The introductory talk on the River Clyde at the Science Centre was informative and really engaged the children. It gave them enough information and got them excited!"
St. Columba's School



Modelling the trout life cycle
with St Gerard's Primary

FAREWELL TO THE FRY

After preparing their trout for life in the wild, children were excited to introduce the fry to their natural habitat!



HOW DID WE SCORE?

This is a summary of the Clyde in the Classroom 2018 teacher feedback.

We review your comments and scores every year to enhance the project experience.

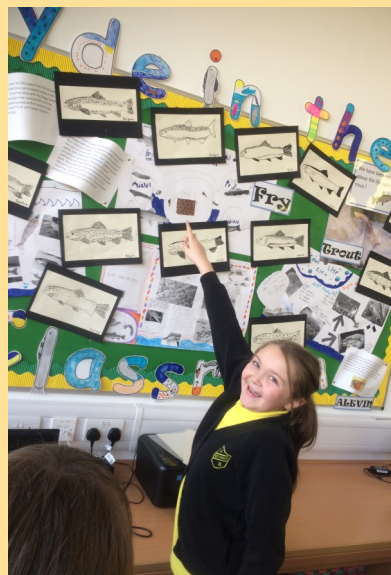
Thanks to all who have contributed!



REPORT CARD	
OVERALL PROJECT	4.9/5
PROJECT SUMMARY DOCUMENT	4.5/5
TEACHER INFORMATION PACK	4.7/5
LAUNCH DAY AT SCIENCE CENTRE	4.8/5
LECTURE ON FISH POPULATIONS	4.6/5
LECTURE ON TROUT HATCHERY	4.9/5
WEEKLY VISITS FROM SCIENTISTS	4.8/5
PROJECT SUPPORT & EMERGENCY RESPONSE	4.9/5
RELEASE DAY	4.9/5
AVERAGE SCORE	4.8/5

PUPIL FEEDBACK

"It was interesting learning about the fish and knowing what they needed to survive. It made me feel like I'd done something for the fish."



"I liked looking after the fish. I enjoyed the responsibility of caring for them."

"It was a really good experience because we got to fully understand how fish live and grow."

"I hope we can do the project again."

"It was fun learning about the fish life cycle."

"I really enjoyed learning all about the life cycle of the fish, it was such an experience to have actual fish in our classroom. Best science class ever!"

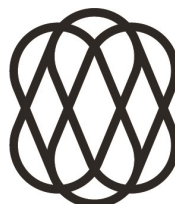
THANK YOU!

The Clyde River Foundation would like to extend a huge thank you to all of our participating schools and project supporters for making Clyde in the Classroom 2018 possible.

We are grateful to the main Clyde in the Classroom 2018 sponsor - Crown Estate Scotland - plus the following project supporters:



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