

Clyde in the Classroom Newsletter 2019

WELCOME!

Over 2,800 pupils successfully completed Clyde in the Classroom this year and we welcomed the 30,000th participant to the project. A total of 109 classes from 89 schools in eight counties participated in this stewardship-building project between January and March 2019.

Dr Willie Yeomans, Catchment Manager at the **Clyde River Foundation** said "Clyde in the Classroom reached a real milestone this year, with our 30,000th pupil participating. In 2020, our 20th year, we look forward to bringing the Clyde to a new cohort of Future Stewards. Our urban rivers, in particular, will benefit from their increased knowledge and understanding of their local environment."

Thanks to everyone who took part - we hope you enjoy catching up on the news from 2019!



Royston Primary School pupils celebrate the 30,000th pupil to participate 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!

TEACHERS' VIEWS

"Participating resulted in an increased level of independence for most pupils involved. All pupils were extremely engaged with the project and this resulted in pupils having really secure scientific knowledge surrounding life cycles, rivers and the impact of pollution on the environment. The learning that occurred as a result of this project led to a fabulous class assembly where all children were able to tell the whole school, parents and guardians about their learning."

Petersburn Primary School and LCSC

"It gave a meaningful context in which the children could learn new skills and develop their understanding of the environment in which they live. It promoted their roles as effective contributors and responsible citizens whilst hitting experiences and outcomes across the whole curriculum."

Colquhoun Park Primary School

"There are several pupils with challenging behaviour, children who are disengaged with the curriculum, children with additional support needs and a pupil who has disengaged with learning completely. All of these children engaged with the project and felt the success of learning and achieving throughout."

Primary School teacher



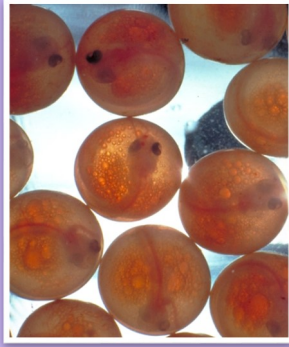
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FISHY FRIENDS

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, highlighting the problems facing the Clyde Catchment. We were overwhelmed by the high quality entries that we received—a big well done to everyone who entered!

Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral Primary P5a 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. Congratulations!



Pupils enjoying their prize investigating the health of their local river



ALEVIN ANTICS

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.



Pupils from St Nicholas Primary School preparing their hatchery

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! Pupils learnt about environmental issues and how they can be Future Stewards for their local rivers and areas.

"The impact on the children was extremely positive; they all had responsibilities to help keep the fish healthy and happy. The experience broke down the barriers to learning and all stages / levels were able to participate, it was very visual and generated lots of discussion, it gave children the opportunity to show case their learning, ideas and share their personal thoughts and feeling and they all felt achievement....that our actions count and that hard work pays off." **Pirie Park Primary School**

RIVER RELEASE



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

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!



Future Stewards from St Brendan's Primary cleaned up their local river



Oakgrove Primary scientists created displays and games for their family STEM event



St Joseph's Primary pupils showing off their art skills with their realistic fish drawings



Sandaig Primary pupils made Lego fish



Pupils from Golfhill Primary made trout themed games

"As a result of caring for and releasing their fish, the children are now even more committed to reducing single use plastic in our school and at home." **Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral**

BYE BYE 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 2019 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	4.8/5
TEACHER INFORMATION PACK	4.5/5
LAUNCH DAY AT SCIENCE CENTRE	4.8/5
LECTURE ON FISH POPULATIONS	4.9/5
LECTURE ON TROUT HATCHERY	4.8/5
WEEKLY VISITS FROM SCIENTISTS	4.9/5
PROJECT SUPPORT & EMERGENCY RESPONSE	4.9/5
RELEASE DAY	5/5
AVERAGE SCORE	4.8/5

PUPIL FEEDBACK

"I enjoyed learning about fresh water fish and would like to be a scientist when I am older after learning new things in this project."



"I loved watching the eggs hatch in to alevins, they were like our babies."

"It was inspiring and it helped us learn more about fish."

"I loved it. I didn't think science could be as much fun"

"I loved having the fish and going to the science centre. I had a sense of responsibility, they were fun to look after."

"This was the best project I've ever done at school"

"I liked researching the life cycle of the brown trout it was interesting to see the start and the end"

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 2019 possible.

We are grateful to the main Clyde in the Classroom 2019 sponsor - Crown Estate Scotland - plus the following project supporters:



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SCIENCE CENTRE!

Lamington & District
Angling Improvement Association



Contact the Clyde River Foundation (Scottish Charity No. SC029602):



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