

Clyde in the Classroom Newsletter 2020

HELLO!

We're very proud to report that during our 20th year of running the project, over 3,100 pupils successfully completed Clyde in the Classroom. A total of 120 classes from 105 schools in eight counties participated in this stewardship-building project between January and March 2020. To date, over 33,000 pupils have, hopefully, been inspired to become budding scientists and "Future Stewards" of our great river!

Dr William Yeomans, Executive Officer at the **Clyde River Foundation** said "This is a self-contained, hands-on and locally-focused science experience. It's more relevant than ever nowadays and a big thank you to everyone who took part and to our funders - we hope you enjoy some highlights from 2020!"



Blairdardie Primary School pupils excited to see Brown trout eggs up close for the first time!

THE JOURNEY BEGINS...

In January, pupils met the Clyde River Foundation scientists and our partners at the **Glasgow Science**



Centre for an exciting introduction to the project.

The children :

- Were introduced to their soon-to-be classmate, the brown trout and its fascinating life cycle.

- Learned about the ecology of the River Clyde and how to look after their brown trout hatchery.

- Explored the Science Mall!

TEACHERS' VIEWS

"My class includes a number of children with additional support needs through language, behaviour, and learning difficulties. I used the project as a way of setting high expectations to ensure all learners could help and engage effectively. The project as a whole is very worthwhile experience as it offers real life, hands-on opportunity to help develop sustainability and contribute to our environment. I especially enjoyed the interdisciplinary aspects of the project which helped to offer breadth and depth to the learning." **Hillington Primary School**

"We were able to fully embed this project across the CFE. The best part of the project is the opportunity it provides learners to see first-hand the wonder of nature and that they learn real life skills through participation in the project. This is an amazing opportunity that I would recommend all teachers at some point to participate in." **St Denis' Primary School**

"The whole class engaged amazingly and can share what they have learned with others. It has helped them become more organised and independent. The project has given one child with additional support needs a focus and drive in literacy and numeracy. Amazing project, I enjoyed just as much as the kids did. Everyone in the school wanted to be involved." **Quarter Primary School**



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READY, SET...EGGS!

After a trial period practising controlling the temperature in a fish-free classroom hatchery, it was time for the egg delivery!

They made their journey 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 some of the changes in the river over the past 20 years. We received some very high quality entries, despite the Covid disruption. Well done to each class which entered!



The Clyde's Future Stewards' winning video shots

St Bernadette's Primary P5 won a "Meet Your River" day - which will hopefully take place next year! The pupils will have the opportunity to meet other species of fish in the river. They will also get into the river to sample the invertebrates, discover how "Trees make Trout" and map the site. Back at school the class will identify the invertebrates and build a poster about the health of their local river.

Congratulations!



ALEVIN ANTICS

Pupils were responsible for ensuring the conditions in the hatchery mimicked those of a healthy river while the fish developed in their artificial nest (or "redd").

Pupils from Muirhouse Primary School preparing their hatcheries



Just like in the wild, the water had to be **cool, clean and running**. From temperature control to removal of dead eggs, pupils cared for their fishy classmates as the eggs hatched and developed into alevins.

We were very 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 neighbourhoods.

"This project gave pupils a sense of responsibility and allowed them to explore ecosystems within their local area, and also facilitated collaborative learning in that the children worked together to care for the fish. These opportunities fostered positive interactions between the children and allowed them to support one another."

Riverside Primary School

RIVER RELEASE



By early Spring the fish were ready to leave the classroom. The children each took brown trout fry to their local tributary or the River Clyde by foot, bus or underground train. They were very proud to release their fish and keen to improve their environment; a bankside review of their achievements to date also provided a reminder of the threats to our rivers. It was great to see the next generation of Future Stewards so inspired!

CLYDE CREATIVITY

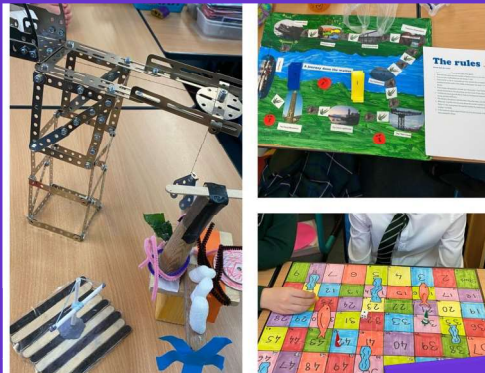
Clyde in the Classroom is a great science project but it also lends itself to many other areas of learning. Here are a few highlights from this year!



Colquhoun Park Primary pupils consolidated all their river knowledge into a handy flipbook



Edinbarnet Primary scientists presented their findings in song to their family assembly



St Columba's pupils constructed the Finnieston crane as well as Clyde related games



Kirkhill Primary pupils showing off their interpretation of Derek de Young's art

"Being involved in the project has widened pupils' knowledge of how important it is to look after our environment and steps they can take to look after it. The project had a positive impact on the behaviour of the class and encouraged all pupils to work together as a team."

Saracen Primary School



Pupils from Newton Farm Primary made trout from recycled materials

TGI-FRY DAY!

After preparing their trout for life in the wild, the 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 2020 teacher feedback.

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



REPORT CARD	
OVERALL PROJECT	4.8 / 5
PROJECT SUMMARY DOCUMENT	4.8 / 5
TEACHER INFORMATION PACK	4.5 / 5
LAUNCH DAY AT SCIENCE CENTRE	4.7 / 5
LECTURE ON FISH POPULATIONS	4.8 / 5
LECTURE ON TROUT HATCHERY	4.8 / 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

"Life changing, one of a kind project."

"It was great to see the eggs grow into alevins, I was really excited by this."

"It was so much fun, I loved being a scientist."

"I really liked to draw art work about the fish. I designed a comic about them growing."



"Some of us knew nothing about trout before we took care of the fish and now we know lots."

"I enjoyed the responsibilities with the topic and looking after the fish."

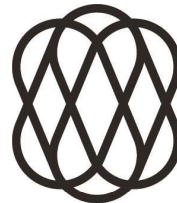
"It was exciting to see how they changed each day."

"This topic has been my favourite topic. I loved learning ways to care for living things."

THANK YOU!

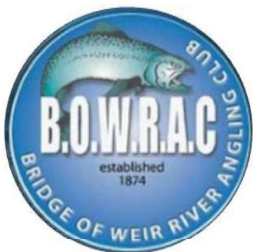
The Clyde River Foundation would like to extend a huge thank you to all of our participating schools and project supporters for making Clyde in the Classroom 2020 possible.

We are grateful to the main Clyde in the Classroom 2020 sponsor - **Crown Estate Scotland** - and our other project partners:

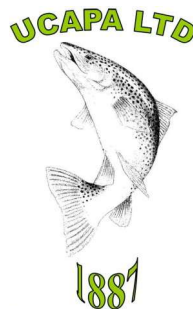


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Contact the Clyde River Foundation (Scottish Charity No. SC029602):

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www.clyderiverfoundation.org | info@clyderiverfoundation.org | 0141 330 5080