



# Pennsylvania TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM



## Program Overview

Pennsylvania Trout In the Classroom (TIC) is an interdisciplinary program that introduces coldwater conservation education in Pennsylvania schools by raising brook trout, a native coldwater species, from eggs to fingerlings.

The program helps to:

- Foster awareness of coldwater conservation in students grades 3–12 and;
- Encourage participation in coldwater resource projects and recreation programs.

PA TIC is made possible through a partnership between Pennsylvania Trout Unlimited, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, and Pennsylvania Department of Education's Environment and Ecology.

The partnership provides:

- Technical assistance, website and teacher forum;
- Grant opportunities;
- Brook trout eggs and trout food;
- Curriculum, aquarium resources and workshops.

## Classroom Objectives

**Students will:**

1. Raise brook trout by observing and monitoring a coldwater ecosystem in a classroom aquarium;
2. Identify stages of the brook trout lifecycle;
3. Recognize brook trout as “indicator species” for healthy coldwater streams;
4. Describe conditions needed for brook trout survival in your classroom aquarium and in nature.

## Getting Started

### Step 1: Learn more about PA TIC

Visit [www.patrouintheclassroom.org](http://www.patrouintheclassroom.org)

### Step 2: “Partner up”

Find a program partner willing to help you with your program (*i.e. trout unlimited, watershed associations, conservation districts*).

Program partners enhance TIC programs through in-class programs, local watershed projects and technical assistance.

### Step 3: Secure funds

Initial program costs = \$1,000—\$1,200.00.

### Step 4: Register online

Register by June 11th of each year.

### Step 5: Attend a TIC workshop (*new teachers*)

A TIC workshop is held every June.



# TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM TIMELINE

<p><b>SEPTEMBER</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aquarium set-up</li> <li>• Implement TIC curriculum map and activities</li> <li>• Join the TIC forum/message board</li> </ul>
<p><b>OCTOBER - NOVEMBER</b></p>	<p><b>Life Stage: Egg arrival, incubation &amp; hatching</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete egg confirmation form</li> <li>• Begin observation, monitoring and recording of aquarium ecosystem</li> </ul>
<p><b>DECEMBER - JANUARY</b></p>	<p><b>Life Stage: Swim-up fry to fry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PATU TIC grant round opens</li> </ul>
<p><b>FEBRUARY - MAY</b></p>	<p><b>Life Stage: Fry to fingerling</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PATU TIC grants due and awarded</li> <li>• Plan release day activities</li> <li>• Release trout into an approved stream</li> </ul>
<p><b>JUNE - AUGUST</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Register online for upcoming school year</li> <li>• Complete end-of-year report online</li> <li>• New TIC teachers attend TIC workshop</li> <li>• Conduct aquarium end-of-year clean-up</li> <li>• Prepare for upcoming TIC school year</li> </ul>

## Curriculum Connections

Participants tailor TIC to fit their classroom needs; therefore, each TIC program is unique.

A variety of activities have been correlated to Pennsylvania's stat science and math standards, as well as, the environment and ecology standards.

Other subject connections: social studies, reading, writing, arts, geography and physical education.

## Funding Opportunities

PA Council of Trout Unlimited provides "start-up" grants for new teachers and "existing" grants to current TIC teachers each year. The grant round opens in December of each year.

## More information

### PA TIC program

**Website:** [www.patrountintheclassroom.org](http://www.patrountintheclassroom.org)

**Phone:** (814) 359-5127

**Email:** [info@patrountintheclassroom.org](mailto:info@patrountintheclassroom.org)

### PA TIC grant program

**Website:** [www.patrountintheclassroom.org](http://www.patrountintheclassroom.org)

**Phone:** (814) 359-5114

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