

Feeding Fry

When to begin

Begin feeding when a quarter of the fry are swimming about in the middle of the tank. Use only **half** of the recommended food to begin with as not all of the fry are eating.

Changes to tank

1 Remove the redd

The fry no longer need their nest. The redd may hide dead eggs or alevins which will contaminate the water.

2 Remove the front cover

Fry need light to see food. They will be shy at first, but will grow accustomed to the light and movement in the classroom. Keep sides covered and lid on tight or fry will jump from the water.

3 Turn off the lights at night

Fry need a cycle of light and dark, so turn off lights in the evening and weekends. The front cover may remain off during nights and weekends if the water temperature is remaining below 10C.

Students love to feed their fry!
Let everyone share this special time, but pre-measure the food and supervise.



Feed a tiny amount of krill at least 4 times each day. Do not worry about weekends. Use the fine grind for 10 days then begin grinding the whole krill.

Feeding guidelines

● Store food in the dark

We are feeding Krill, a natural part of their ocean diet. It does not require freezing, but keep containers in a cool dark place.

● Feed 4 times a day

Feed very little, but frequently. For the first 2 or 3 days feed tiny amounts once an hour, if possible, to help the fry learn. Then feed at least 4 times a day but do not worry about weekends.

● Use 'fines' for 10 days

Gently sprinkle the food over the water with a minimum of arm movement to avoid startling the fry.

● Switch to whole krill

After 10 days the fry will need larger food, but grind to smaller bites before sprinkling in tank. As the fish grow larger, increase the size of the bites.

What's bite size?

Think of **Goldilocks and the Three Bears**.

Fry will only eat 'just the right size' krill because they swallow their food whole and do not chew. Watch the fry carefully. If you see a piece being gulped - and then spit back out - this size is too big to swallow. Grind a bit finer until the fry are bigger and can swallow the bigger bites.

Can we feed to much?

Overfeeding is not a favour for your fry! They are cold blooded and eat infrequently in the wild. Too much uneaten food in the tank will foul the water and cause contaminants to build up quickly, causing death. At the fry stage monitor the water closely for changes in pH and ammonia levels.