

# Life Stages in the Classroom

## Eyed-Eggs

Eyed eggs are sensitive to light and extreme changes in temperature. Limit observing (when the front insulation is removed) to three 10 minute sessions each day. Check your tank daily for egg health. You can expect 5 - 10% of the eggs to die. Dead eggs are milky-white and opaque. Remove immediately from the water as they spread fungus to live eggs. To remove dead eggs, wash hands and use dipnet or clean slotted spoon.

## Hatch

The eggs may hatch over a number of days. After hatch a white froth will appear on the water surface. This is normal and should be skimmed off with a dip net. Remove egg casings on the bottom on the tank with a dip net. Rinse filters to remove egg casings. Test for ammonia levels at this time. If above normal, change some tank water.

## Alevin

Alevins are sensitive to light and prefer the safety of the redd. Keep the tank covered and continue the guidelines of three 10 minute observations per day. Once the yolk sac is absorbed the alevin is 'buttoned-up' and will emerge from the redd.

## Swim-up Fry

Fry need to inflate their swim bladder at the surface of the water before they have buoyancy. They must struggle to the surface and gulp the air. This usually occurs at night. When the fry are swimming freely in the water they will rise to the surface looking for food.

## Release

Salmon species contain unique stocks that are attuned to their natal stream. All fry must be returned to an authorized stream under the direction of Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Keep records of the number of fry released (count at release site). This data is required for scientific purposes.

## Wrap-up

Your tank is lent "in trust" to raise salmon. Do not use for other purposes. Clean all equipment before storing in a safe place. Gravel may be reused after sterilization by boiling/baking. Purchase consumable supplies annually.



**Eyed Egg**



**Alevin**



**Fry**

