



Classroom Aquarium Education Program

Parameters for Partners

This program is also known as Salmonids in the Classroom, Trout in the Classroom, Steelhead in the Classroom, Salmon and Trout Education Program

Premise

The Classroom Aquarium Education Program (CAEP) is a community-based program which allows students to experience first-hand the delicate balance needed for animals to survive in aquatic ecosystems. Using eggs provided by a hatchery, classes set-up and maintain an aquarium for the purpose of observing the development of fish from the eyed-egg stage until they become fry. Students engage in course of study which supports the learning experience across curriculum areas. This program is run cooperatively by local schools, fishing clubs and government agencies.

Objectives

- Provide a positive learning program for classrooms on the value of aquatic ecosystems through the hatching and release of salmonids
- Help students learn about their local watershed and how human activities affect the quality of water in local streams, lakes and bays.
- Provide support to teachers to enable them to participate in this learning experience
- Fulfill the goals and objectives of each partner

Roles of Partners

The following parameters outline the roles partners play in operation of a CAEP program.

Fly-fishing Club or other sponsor

- Assist at teacher training workshops
- Provide in-class support to teachers (setting up aquarium, maintaining eggs and fish, troubleshooting problems)
- Assist class with release of fry
- Provide financial assistance to school to cover cost of equipment or provide equipment on loan
- Pick up eggs from CDFW and deliver to schools
- Assist teacher in completing and returning the permit 772
- Assist teacher in adhering to requirements of the 772 permit
- Complete and return other required paperwork and forms provided by CDFW

Teacher

- Attend and participate in a training to become certified
- Apply for and follow conditions of the permit 772
- Provide classroom space for aquarium
- Ensure the eggs and fish are properly cared for and released according to the permit
- Provide classroom activities related to habitat, fish, and conservation to support the classroom activity of hatching the eggs
- Complete and return other required paperwork and forms provided by CDFW

CDFW

- Coordinate program
- Lead or co-lead training workshops
- Provide eggs, biological, and pathological assistance as needed
- Authorize release sites and provide copies of permits to qualified teachers
- Assist in locating possible funding sources for equipment
- Advertise training and provide available resource materials
- Operate program under guidelines set out in CDFW Operations Manual

Supporting park districts, water agency or other partners

- Co-lead (with other partners) training sessions
- Provide naturalist to assist teachers as able
- Provide educational resources to teachers
- Complete and return required paperwork and forms provided by CDFW
- Host workshop