



## D.T.S. Trout in the Classroom 2019-2020

This is the third year Delaware Township School is participating in the trout in the classroom program (T.I.C.) and it has been a yearly success and a lot of fun since the beginning. The T.I.C. program is a partnership with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Division of Fish and Wildlife and the Trout Unlimited organization.

The following is an excerpt from the New Jersey Fish & Wildlife website:

“Trout in the Classroom (TIC) is a science-based program that teaches children about the importance of cold water conservation through a hands-on approach to learning. Through the process of raising trout from eggs provided by the Pequest Trout Hatchery to fingerling size for release, students learn about the importance of clean, cold water, not only for the trout they are raising, but also for the other organisms, including people.

The TIC program is cross-curricular and can encompass many subject areas such as science, math, art, language arts, reading, technology, music and more. While the activities associated with the program are geared towards middle school aged students, schools from Kindergarten through college levels are using the same materials. Tanks must be set up in a main stream school, where children can interact with the fish daily and where no fee is charged for the program.”

Links for more information:

<https://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/tic.htm>

<http://www.troutintheclassroom.org/about>



Here is what some of the 6<sup>th</sup> graders wrote when asked to write about how they feel about the T.I.C. program and what they would like to learn from it:

“I feel really happy about the trout in the classroom curriculum because I think it’s an amazing idea to raise trout in the classroom because it shows kids how to read nitrite, nitrate, and pH levels. I want to learn how long the trout can survive in a perfect habitat with clean, cold water and food” –S.B.

“I feel good about the trout in the classroom. Something I want to learn from raising the trout in the classroom is why does the alevin lay on the bottom while eating from their yolk sac” – A.N.

“I want to learn how trout act around each other, what are their behaviors in groups” –A. L.

“I want to learn about what trout eat and what they need to survive” –A. M.

“I think the trout in the classroom project is cool and I want to learn how they get back to their spawning places in the wild” – V. C.

“By learning how to raise trout in the classroom, I will know how to take care of fish in my house with cleaning, feeding, and making sure the chemical composition of the water is stable so they won’t die” –S.M.