

Connecting Students To Their Watersheds



What is Trout in the Classroom?

Trout in the Classroom (TIC) is a program that offers students a chance to raise trout in a classroom setting. The environmental education program provides students in grades 4 - 12 hands-on experience in:

- raising trout from eggs to fry
- monitoring tank water quality
- engaging in stream habitat studies
- learning to appreciate water resources
- beginning to foster a conservation ethic
- growing an understanding of ecosystems

During the school year, each teacher can tailor the program to fit their needs. Each program is unique and has interdisciplinary applications for STREAM (Science, Technology, Recreation, Engineering, Art and Math) which can support mandated education requirements.

TIC is for Most Grade Levels

Any teacher in any classroom can make TIC relevant to his or her classroom curriculum. In the early grades, the focus can be on caring, growth, understanding life cycles and the seasons. A high school program might explore water chemistry, the nitrogen cycle, natural resource management, watershed geology and ecology.

Why Participate in TIC?

Because TIC brings nature into the classroom, it allows students to develop a personal bond with the natural world and a sense of conservation ethics that are at the core of Trout Unlimited's mission (www.tu.org). Youth and young anglers better understand the value of their local waters and fisheries when they have seen the trout life cycle up close and personal in this way.

TIC Across the Country

TIC volunteers, teachers and students across the U. S. share resources and learn from one another. For this reason, Trout Unlimited staff and volunteers in 35 states participate in more than 5,000 classroom programs in the United States. You can explore www.troutintheclassroom.org to learn more.

TIC in Arizona

The Arizona TIC Program has rapidly increased over the past several years. In 2014 there were 3 schools and has increased to 34 for the 2021 - 2022 school year.

This dramatic expansion has been due to the cooperation of Trout Unlimited, Arizona Game and Fish Department and large grants provided from the Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation (AZSFWC) license plate program (<https://azsfwc.org/grant-information>).

As a result of this year's supporting grants, student involvement and experiences for the 34 schools will again exceed 4,000 students with an additional 10,000 people connecting with the program through visits by parents, relatives, school administrators and classroom guests.

Additional information about the Arizona TIC Program and information on how to volunteer is available at www.aztic.org.

For information on applying to the program please send an email to info@aztic.org.