



Fish Friends Annual Report 2019



TD Friends of the
Environment
Foundation



OF COMPANIES
Stevens Group

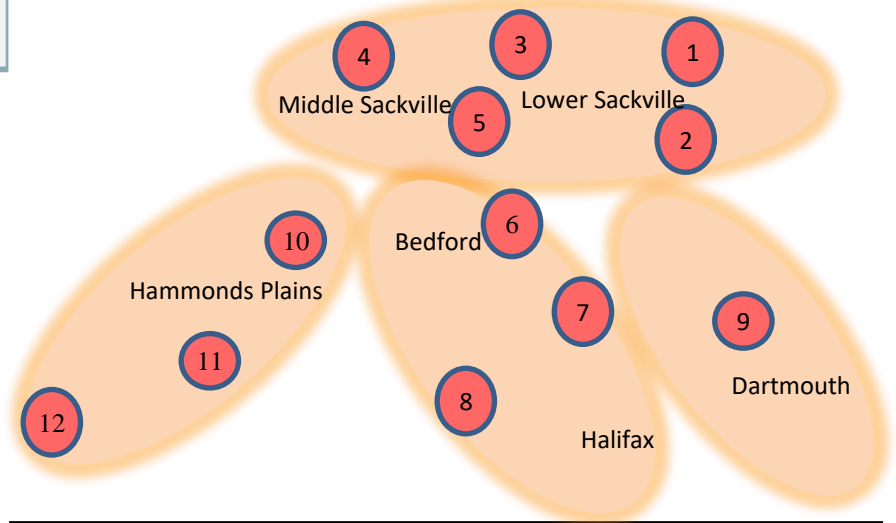
RCL Calais Branch 162

Fish Friends: Helping Children Learn About Fish Life Cycles in the Sackville River

Participating Schools

1. Cavalier Drive (2 Eng. 2 FI)
2. Caudle Park (2 English)
3. École du Grand Portage (2 French)
4. Sackville Heights (4 English)
5. Sycamore Lane (2 English)
6. Sunnyside (1 Eng. 2 FI)
7. St Catherines (1 FI)
8. Fairview Heights (2 Eng.)
9. Ian Forsyth (2 Eng)
10. Kingswood (1 Eng. 4 FI)
11. Hammonds Plains (2 Eng. 2 FI)
12. St Margarets Bay (1 Eng)

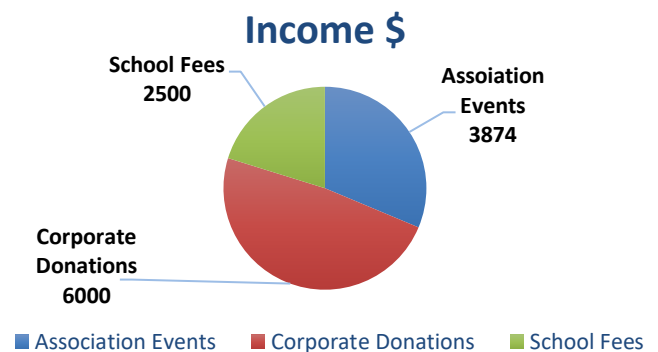
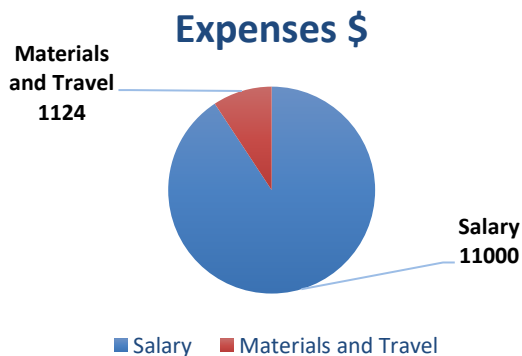
- ❖ 32 classes and 96 classroom lessons
- ❖ 685 students
- ❖ 15 field trips
- ❖ 4000 fish released.



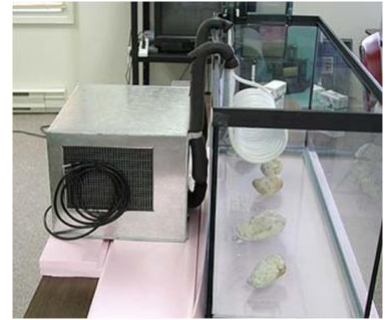
“Unless we are willing to encourage our children to reconnect with and appreciate the natural world, we can’t expect them to help protect and care for it.”
David Suzuki

Fish Friends is a program dedicated to:

1. **Teaching children**
 - about the salmonid life cycle
 - wetlands and rivers
2. **Inspiring children**
 - to adopt sustainable behaviours
3. **Empowering children**
 - to become directly involved in protecting all organisms found in these habitats.



Setting up the Aquarium



Classroom Lesson – Mi'kmaq Ecological Knowledge



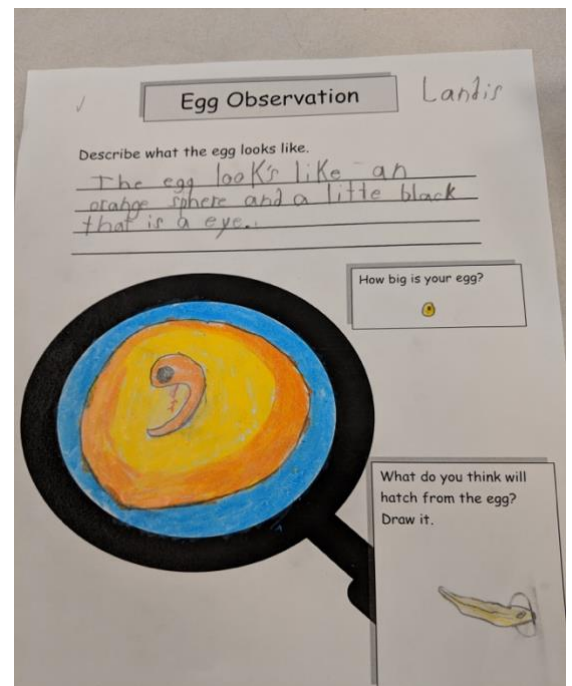
During this program students were encouraged to learn and value scientific ecological knowledge and Mi'kmaq traditional ecological knowledge.

They drew a stylistic salmon to remind us that there are many valuable ways to learn about the environment.

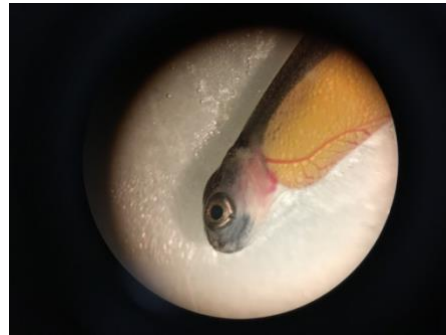
Classroom Lesson – Egg Observation



In early March students had their first opportunity to see a brook trout egg close-up. They were very excited to identify the eyes and the spine. They drew a picture of what they saw and they tried to guess what would hatch.



Classroom Lesson – Alevin Observation

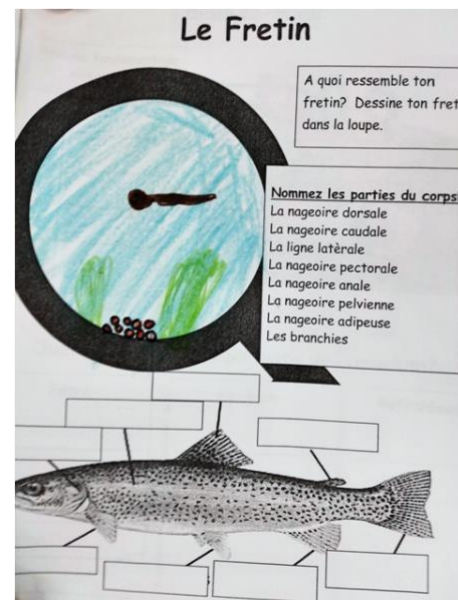


After March Break students were surprised to see what had hatched from the egg...an alevin! With the aid of a microscope they were able to see the heart pumping.

Classroom Lesson – Fry Observation



Students were able to observe brook trout fry by the end of April. At this time we also increased the temperature of the water to 8-9 °c.



Field Trip

Fish Friends 2017 culminated in a 4 part field trip to reinforce the students' knowledge of the brook trout and their habitat.

The field trip took place in 4 locations.

1. Students were able to examine a variety of fish caught in the fish ladder including gaspereau, American suckers, trout and small mouth bass.
2. Students observed and then searched for and collected aquatic invertebrates. They used a 'bug sheet' to help identify what they found. They learned about the lifecycle of dragon flies.
3. Students counted and released their brook trout fry into the Little Sackville River.
4. The day ended with 3 games:
 - ✓ Predator/Prey
 - ✓ Food Competition
 - ✓ Save Our River

Students had great fun as they were competing against the adults on the trip.



This is the best field trip ever!

Grade 2 student



We named our fish! 1 fish, 2 fish, red fish, blue fish!

Grade 2 student