



Male Brook Trout



Female Brook Trout

Life Stages of the Brook Trout

The Embryonic (Egg) Stage



Actual Size of Egg

Actual Size of Alevin

The egg's incubation period depends upon the temperature. The eggs develop eyes in at least a week after fertilization. Eggs which become cloudy or white are not fertile and will not hatch.



Hatching Stage

After the incubation, the young fish soften their shells with secretions that allow the sac-fry (or Alevin) to break through the wall of the eggs.



Larval Stage

The sac-fry have a yolk sac that provides them nutrients for this stage. They will hide beneath the rocks or gravel on the bottom of the tank. In the 'wild' they would be staying in their mother's 'redd' or hole she dug to deposit them in.



Juvenile

Once the young fish have finished absorbing their yolk sac, they emerge from the gravel or rocks and feed on small zooplankton and other organic matter.