

Shad in the Classroom

Sorting the Eggs

You and your students will need to be diligent about removing dead (unfertilized) eggs. Dead eggs will appear cloudy and opaque. Healthy, fertilized eggs will appear clear. Having some dead eggs is normal.

It is important that you remove the dead eggs as soon as possible. Dead eggs will start to grow a fungus that is harmful to the healthy eggs. Your students should remove dead eggs both in the morning and the afternoon for the first 2 days.

Use the turkey baster to remove all of the eggs from the egg chamber. Use Petri dishes and pipettes provided to remove the cloudy and opaque eggs from the live eggs. Place the live eggs back into the egg chamber using the turkey baster.

Collect all of the dead eggs and place them in a graduated cylinder to measure the amount (in milliliters) of dead eggs after each sorting. Record the amount of dead eggs on the “*Water Quality Daily Log*.”

The importance of good record keeping cannot be stressed enough, both to give students an appreciation of collecting scientific data and to assist in the restoration efforts.