

**Experiment time** - Feed your Triops by adding food to the observation station while in the open position (holes lined up so Triops can swim in). You may turn the inside observation cup until the holes are not lined up to trap a single Triops in the cavity. You can then observe the Triops up close and let him/her finish eating. If you do this daily at a certain time you can also see if these prehistoric critters can be taught to come to the observation station to eat when hungry. Only trap one Triops as they will fight with each other if confined to a small space. Feed the others in the main tank. To avoid spoiling the tank water, use your pipette daily to remove old pellets, other debris and discarded exoskeletons.

To maximize the growth of your Triops, try adding pellet-size bits of fresh raw fish or shrimp to your Triops tank several times a week. They also love freeze-dried worms and brine shrimp sold at local pet stores.

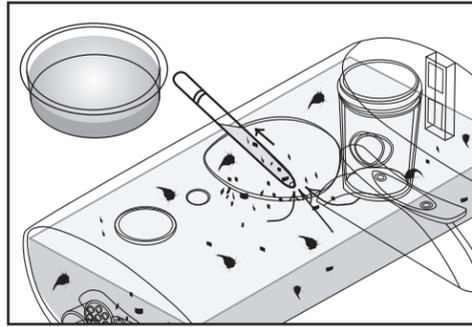
**Step 3: Maintaining Your Tank**

**Day 10 and Beyond**

Increase feeding while ensuring all food is being consumed in the same day.

If the water turns cloudy, begin water changes using the same spring water used to hatch your Triops.

1. Use the pipette to remove any material that has accumulated on the bottom of the tank. Dispose of this material in the toilet.
2. Make sure the spring water you are adding is the same temperature as the water already in the tank.
3. Hold the tank over the toilet and open the cap slowly. Pour the cloudy tank water into the toilet and slowly replace with fresh spring water. If you added gravel or sand, try not to stir it up, as the waste buildup in the gravel may hurt your Triops.
4. Repeat this process every 5 minutes until the water is clear.



**WARNING: Wash hands after handling dirty tank water and avoid splashing dirty tank water into eyes.**



**HELPFUL HINTS**

- Triops do best if placed in a combination of natural and artificial light for 12-16 hours per day.
- To grow large Triops, supplement their diet three times a week with pellet-sized amounts of freeze-fried blood worms or brine shrimp and/or fresh bits of fish and shrimp. They also may be fed a small amount of cooked cauliflower.
- Water is critical towards growth and survival. The water used must contain calcium. Natural spring water that is not labeled distilled, deionized, or reverse osmosis **MUST** be used for hatching and growing Triops. If your Triops don't hatch, switch the type of water used and try again. There are enough eggs to hatch 3 times.
- Avoid using insecticides, room sprays, or cleaning fluids in the same room as your Triops. Your tank water may absorb some of these harmful vapors and possibly poison your aquatic pets.
- If you should run out of food, use a high quality pellet fish food. It should fit in their mouth or you may have to crush the pellet prior to feeding.
- **Do not** add water conditioners, dechlorinators, colored gravel, or toys to your dish. These items may be toxic to your Triops.
- **Do not** overfeed. If food accumulates, reduce feedings, change water more frequently and remove excess food with the pipette.
- You have enough eggs to hatch a few times.
- If you are going to save the remaining eggs and foods for a much later use, please place in zip-top bag and freeze.

For more information, visit our website [www.Triops.com](http://www.Triops.com)

**KEEP THE KIDS HAPPY WARRANTY**

If for any reason your **eggs did not grow** send in \$2.00 for shipping and handling along with a self addressed envelope and a replacement baby food and egg set will be sent to you.

Enough eggs have been included to grow Triops at least four times. Only 1 to 3 critters should be grown at a time. If you fail to grow Triops on the first try, read the directions carefully to insure instructions were followed and consider switching brands of water. Read the bottle label carefully as many bottled spring waters are really purified waters with no mineral benefit. For example, Great Value spring water available at Wal-Mart should not be used for this reason. Zephyrhills is an example of a Triops-friendly water.

ORDER FORM				www.Triops.com
Item	\$	Quantity	Total	
Triops Eggs (80)	\$2.00	( )	_____	
Baby Food	\$1.00	( )	_____	
Adult Food	\$1.00	( )	_____	
Hatching Dish	\$2.00	( )	_____	
Thermometer	\$1.00	( )	_____	
S/H	\$2.00 for every 5 items	Shipping	_____	
			<b>TOTAL:</b>	_____
S/H \$2.00 for every 5 items				

**DONT FORGET** - include your mailing address with any order!  
**SEND YOUR ORDERS TO:** Toyops Order Department • PO Box 11369 • Pensacola FL 32524  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Cut Along Line

**TRIASSIC TRIOPS® PARTS WARRANTY**  
 If you are missing parts, please send proof of purchase and let us know which item is missing or broken. A replacement set will be sent to you. Print your address clearly and include the name and address of the store where you purchased this product.  
 Toyops Warranty (TRI-SAT) • PO Box 11369 • Pensacola FL 32524

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**Triops growth and health depend on:**

- ✓ USING THE RIGHT WATER
- ✓ PROVIDING THE RIGHT LIGHT
- ✓ MAINTAINING THE RIGHT TEMPERATURE
- ✓ FEEDING THE RIGHT AMOUNT
- ✓ KEEPING THE WATER CLEAN

**For children ages 8 and up.**  
 Adult supervision required for children under 10.  
 NOT SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN UNDER THREE YEARS.

**AMAZING FACTS ABOUT TRIOPS**

- + The bright colors of the Triops are due to the hemoglobin in the blood and a dark blue-green pigment in the connective tissues.
- + Triops have a shield-shaped carapace (exoskeleton), sessile compound eyes and 35 to 71 pairs of leaf like appendages (legs) used for swimming and respiration. Mandibles and maxillae (mouth parts) are present.
- + The young quickly move through several larval stages, shedding (molting) their exoskeletons each time.
- + Adults can complete their life cycle in less than 30 days.
- + Triops use abdominal appendages to transport food along the midline of their bodies up to their mouth. They are in constant motion and perform hilarious acrobatics and often eat while upside-down.
- + They are called branchiopods (gill foot) because they obtain oxygen through their feet.

For more amazing facts and a complete curriculum visit [www.Triops.com](http://www.Triops.com)

**NOTE: Follow the directions carefully. Your Triops will not hatch and grow if:**

1. Wrong water is used.
2. Any foreign objects are added to the tank that may contaminate the water.
3. Water temperature falls below 73°F.
4. Water quality is not maintained.
5. Lights are not bright enough.

For more information, visit our website [www.Triops.com](http://www.Triops.com)

**BLUE THUMB DIRECTIONS FOR HATCHING AND RAISING TRIOPS**

Selecting the appropriate water is essential for hatching and growing Triops. **DO NOT** use mineral water, tap water, carbonated water or highly purified water. Read the small print and **DO NOT** use the water if labeled as purified by distillation, reverse osmosis or deionization. This processed water will prevent Triops from hatching. The water must contain calcium. Wal-Mart brand spring water, for example, must be avoided because the small print indicates that the water is actually distilled. In the United States, Zephyrhills, and Culligan brand spring waters worked well. There are many other bottled spring waters that will grow Triops well.

**Develop a BLUE THUMB for raising Triops!**

These unique directions were developed after a thorough scientific study at the Triops laboratory. Follow them carefully to grow an amazing prehistoric pet!

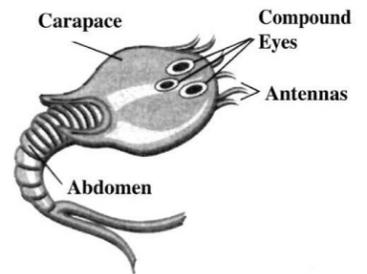
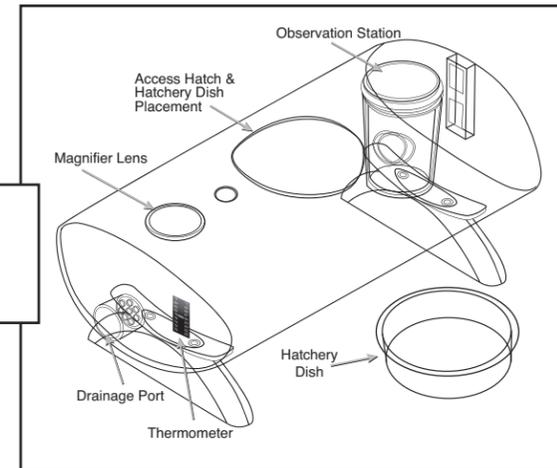
**Triassic Triops®**  
**Lab Raised Triops Eggs**

- What's Included:**
- Triops Eggs
  - Triops Baby and Adult Food
  - Space Age Tank
  - Observatory
  - Magnifying Lens
  - Triops Hatching Dish
  - Thermometer
  - Directions
  - Pipette

**What You'll Need:**

- 2 Gallon Natural Spring Water (Water should not be labeled deionized, reverse osmosis, or distilled)
- Read the small print
- Small Desk Lamp
- Peeled Carrot

**SPACE AGE TANK & OBSERVATORY**



## Getting Started. IMPORTANT

### STEP 1: PREPARING YOUR TANK

First insure the cap is screwed on the tank drain port. Snap both legs onto the pegs found on the tank bottom. Then fill the tank with tap water and inspect for any leaks. Pay attention to the sealed ends as they have been observed to get damaged with shipping. Place on a paper so leaks are obvious and will not damage furniture. If leaking contact us at 800-200-3466 for replacement information.

Once you are satisfied the tank does not leak, unscrew drain cap and pour out all the tap water. Rinse the tank **extremely well** with a few cups of bottled natural spring water. Place tank in a warm, and well lit area (preferably in both artificial and natural light). Fill 3/4 with bottled natural spring water. Add a tiny bit (half the size of a dime) of crushed carrot to the tank.

- Rinse your hatching dish with spring water and dry with a paper towel prior to use. (**DON'T USE ANY SOAP or TAP WATER**).
- Place the dish in the center hole of the space age tank.
- Fill the dish 2/3 full with bottled natural spring water.
- Add 1/8 teaspoon of crushed peeled carrot.
- Peel off backing of the thermometer and stick it on the outside of your tank. You may also leave the backing on and determine water temperature by briefly dipping the thermometer in the water (less than 5 seconds). Blot the thermometer dry when finished.
- Maintain a water temperature between 74° F and 85° F (23° C and 29° C).

### STEP 2: HATCHING AND FEEDING

#### How to Hatch and Grow Triops

**COLD WEATHER:** Place a 60- to 100-watt incandescent lamp 4 to 10 inches from the dish. Leave the light on 24 hours a day. This helps warm the tank as well as provide the amount of light that Triops require. Give the Triops rest at night by covering the dish with aluminum foil.

**HOT WEATHER:** To avoid overheating the dish, use a cooler fluorescent light or keep the dish in indirect sunlight. Leave the light on for at least 13 hours each day.

#### **WARNING: Your Triops will not hatch and grow if:**

1. Water is labeled distilled, reverse osmosis, deionized, mineral, tap or carbonated.
2. Water temperature both day and night falls below 73° F (22° C).
3. Light is not adequate.

#### Day 1

Once the water temperature reaches 74°F or more, pour in 15-20 eggs. Tap the container labeled Triops Eggs on a flat surface 2 times so eggs trapped under the lid fall to bottom. Open the container over a sheet of paper and pour some of the eggs onto a white sheet of paper so they may be counted prior to placing them in the dish. If you spill out too many eggs, just pour them back into the container. Seal the remaining eggs and save them so you can hatch Triops a few more times. Add your eggs to the center of your prepared hatching dish. **Do not** move or shake the tank once the eggs are introduced, as they may get stuck on the side of the dish and not hatch.

#### Days 2-4

As water evaporates, eggs may get stuck to the side of the dish. Use your pipette and gently add fresh spring water to the dish. You can drip the water directly onto the eggs that are clinging to the side of the dish. It is natural for the eggs to float.

Eggs begin to hatch in approximately 20 hours and continue to hatch for 5 days. Triops should be fed shortly after they hatch. Count the baby Triops. The goal is to hatch 1 to 3 Triops at a time. Use your magnifying lens to view the floating eggs and newly hatched Triops. We will use the dish to grow Triops for the first 7 days.

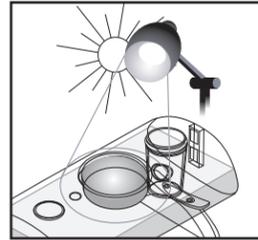
**Feeding Your Triops** *Hint - Use your magnifying glass.*

Open your baby food and sprinkle a tiny bit of powdered food into a clean bottle cap or similar small container filled with spring water (less than a teaspoon of water should be used). Mix very well using your pipette. Add enough baby food to the water to turn the color medium green. Fill your pipette with this mixture and place 1 or 2 drops of it directly onto each of the small Triops swimming about. If there are 3 Triops, you would add 3 – 6 drops. Repeat this 2 or 3 times daily for the first 3 days, then never more than twice daily beginning on day 4. Dispose of the remaining prepared food suspension and make fresh food each time you feed. You can better preserve the Baby Food packet by sealing it in a zip-top bag and refrigerating between uses.

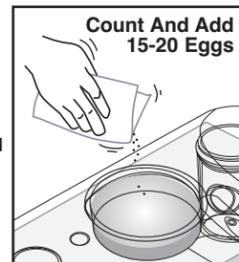
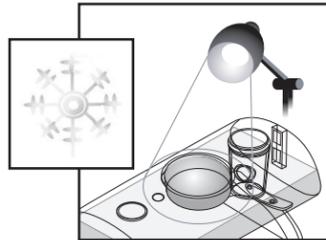
**On Day 3 or 4**, gently add spring water using your pipette. Fill the dish almost to the top. Make sure the water you add is approximately the same temperature as the water in the dish to avoid shocking your young Triops.



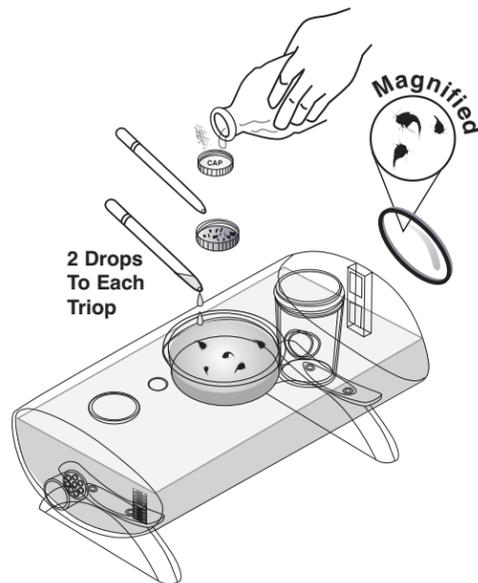
INSPECT FOR  
LEAKS



Use both artificial  
and natural light



Count And Add  
15-20 Eggs



2 Drops  
To Each  
Triop

Magnified

## Adult Supervision Suggested...



### Cleaning Your Dish

**Day 4** should be the earliest day that debris can be found on the bottom of your dish. Baby Triops can hide in the debris, so care has to be taken when removing the debris so the Triops are not removed along with the debris. It is suggested that an adult assist to insure you are not disposing of any young Triops.

To clean up the debris, use your magnifying lens to see where your baby Triops are hiding. Use your pipette to remove as much of the debris as possible. Dispose of it in the toilet.

Water should be kept clear or only slightly cloudy. After removing the debris and any excess food, use your pipette to remove 1/3 of the water and replace it with fresh water of a similar temperature. You should repeat this whenever the water becomes cloudy or white in color. The water can be changed 1/3 at a time every 5 minutes until clean (clear). Dispose of dirty water in the toilet.

**WARNING: Wash hands after handling the cloudy water and avoid splashing this dirty water into your eyes.**

### Days 5 - 7

#### Feeding Your Triops

Each morning, give your Triops baby food. In the afternoon, you'll begin introducing Adult Triops Food.

Here's how to prepare the Adult Food: Crush 2 pellets between two spoons to make a fine powder. If two different colors of pellets are present, use one of each color. You can also place pellets between paper and use a spoon to roll over the pellet until powdered. Add only 1/4 of this crushed food to your Triops dish at a time. If you see the food accumulating, use the pipette to remove it and feed less the next time.

If your Triops are eating all of their food, increase the amount of crushed pellet added each time. Prepare fresh food for each feeding.

**Day 7** is the last day you will feed baby food.

**Beginning on Day 8**, feed only adult food and other suggested treats, such as carrot, bits of shrimp, fish, or cauliflower.

#### Day 8

#### Time to move your Triops.

To grow larger Triops, move them from the dish to the space age tank. Here's how to switch to the new tank properly:

If you desire, you may add natural gravel or sand and aquarium plants, available at any aquarium store to your tank. Soak your gravel in spring water for several minutes. You can use a disposable paper cup for this purpose. Then discard the water and add gravel to the tank. Your Triops will love to explore the rocky bottom. **Do not** add colored gravel or aquarium toys.

1. Gently pour off 1/3 of the water from the dish into the tank. Try not to pour out your Triops or any remaining carrot.
2. Use your pipette and fill dish with water from the tank.
3. Repeat this in 5 minutes.
4. After the second 1/3 water change, gently pour your Triops into the tank. Dispose of the carrot and any other residue and clean your dish for future hatching.
5. Add a pinch of fresh crushed carrot and repeat this step two or three times weekly.

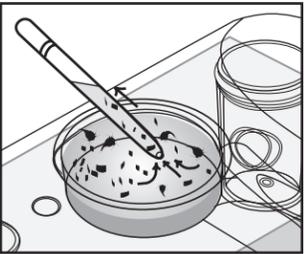
**WARNING: Wash hands after handling the cloudy water and avoid splashing this dirty water into your eyes**

Rinse your observation station with spring water. Then place it in the tank hole that fits. You need to line up the two holes so water may rush in. Top up your tank so the Triops may enter the observation station.

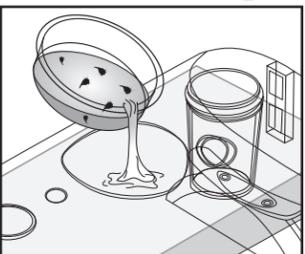
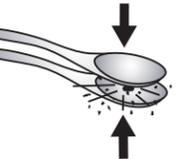
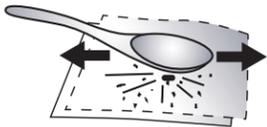
Snap your magnifying lens into the tank so you don't lose it. It can be removed to view Triops that you trap in your observation station.

#### Feeding Adult Food to Your Triops. Reminder – Stop feeding baby food.

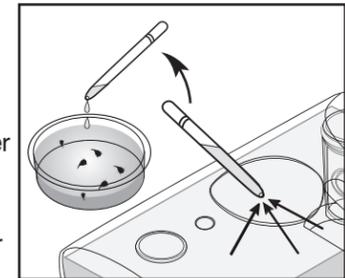
Instead, feed one uncrushed pellet to each of your Triops daily. If the pellet is eaten in a few hours, feed 2 pellets to each Triops two times daily. Alternate between any different colored pellets when feeding. If they still can't eat the pellet, break it up until granular so that it fits into the mouth of your Triops more easily. Some Triops are hogs and will take all the pellets. If this happens, you may have to add another pellet.



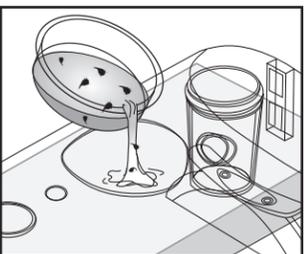
Remove Debris



Pour off 1/3  
Water



Fill Dish With Water  
From The Tank



1/3 Water  
Changes x 2

