

- 1 Gallon Natural Spring Water (Water should not be labeled deionized, reverse osmosis, or distilled).
- Read the small print. Petco has a bottled Beta fish water that works well.
- Small Desk Lamp
- Peeled Carrot

**What You'll Need:**

- Triops Eggs
- Triops Baby and Adult Foods
- Magnifying Glass
- Triops Gravel & Lime Stone
- Triops Hatching Dish
- Triops Bean-Shaped Adult Tank
- Thermometer
- Directions
- Pipette

**What's Included:**

Triassic Triops®  
Lab Raised Triops Eggs

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

## Develop a BLUE THUMB for raising Triops!

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

AND KEEPING THE WATER CLEAN

FEEDING THE RIGHT AMOUNT

MAINTAINING THE RIGHT TEMPERATURE

PROVIDING THE RIGHT LIGHT

USING THE RIGHT WATER

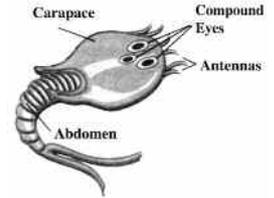
Triops growth and health depend on:



### 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 and video on the natural habitat of Triops visit [www.Triops.com](http://www.Triops.com).



### HELPFUL HINTS

- Triops do best if placed in a combination of natural and fluorescent light for 12-16 hours per day.
- To grow large Triops, supplement their diet three times a week with pellet-sized amounts of freeze-dried blood worms or brine shrimp and/or fresh bits of fish and shrimp. They also enjoy cooked cauliflower.
- Water is critical towards growth and survival. 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 to Petco or similar brand Beta fish bottled aquarium water or Perrier with the gas removed, and try again.
- Avoid using insecticides, room sprays, or cleaning fluids in the same room as your Triops.
- 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.
- You may add natural sand and live aquarium plants as decoration. One snail may be added to eat left over food..
- **For more information, visit our website [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.

**TEXAS CUSTOMERS - All bottled spring waters in Texas have chlorine added. Please boil before use.**

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 (distilled, deionized or reverse osmosis). Read the small print. Petco sells a Beta Fish bottled water which is ideal for Triops growth. We also found Perrier water with the gas removed is as good and less expensive. To remove gas from Perrier, shake and stir and let sit open for 30 hours before use. Insure all bubbles are gone.

#### STEP 1: PREPARING YOUR DISH

- Rinse your hatching dish with natural spring water prior to use (**DON'T USE ANY SOAP or TAP WATER**).
- Dry the dish with a paper towel.
- Place the dish in bright light, preferably in both fluorescent and natural light.
- Fill the dish with bottled natural spring water. Let the water sit for 5 hours before adding eggs.
- Add 1 lime stone to the dish and 2 stones per liter to your bottle of water.
- Peel off backing of the thermometer and stick it on the outside of your dish.
- **YOU MUST** maintain a water temperature between 74° F and 85° F



### 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 three 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 try again using Petco Beta Fish water, or Perrier with the gas removed. We know both these waters work well. If switching to another brand of spring water insure it says Natural Spring Water. **If in the state of Texas**, you must boil your bottled water as all bottled water sold in TX contains chlorine.

#### For Additional Supplies:

Triops Eggs (80)	\$2.00	Baby Food	\$1.00	Adult Food	\$1.00
Hatching Dish	\$2.00	Thermometer	\$1.00	Bean-Shaped Tank	\$4.00

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

You can also order more eggs at [toyops.com](http://toyops.com). Select Warranty center and follow instructions. [www.Triops.com](http://www.Triops.com)

#### 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 (TR-TRI) • PO Box 11369 • Pensacola FL 32524 • or write us at [customerservice@toyops.com](mailto:customerservice@toyops.com)

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(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. Use fluorescent or natural light for growth. Give the Triops rest at night by covering the dish with aluminum foil. By covering the water you will help keep the water warm at night. Leave a tiny hole to permit air to enter.

**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.

#### Day 1

Bring water to 74°F or higher and open water and let age 6 hours prior to use. Once the water temperature reaches 74°F or more and the water sat open for several hours, pour in 15-20 eggs. Tap the container labeled Triops Eggs on a flat surface so eggs trapped under the lid fall to bottom of the dish. Open over paper and pour out 20 eggs onto the paper. 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 dish. **Do not** move or shake the dish 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, or if eggs get stuck to the side of the dish, use your pipette and gently add fresh 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. Count the baby Triops. The goal is to hatch 1 to 3 Triops at a time.

#### Feeding Your Triops

*Hint - Use your magnifying glass.*

**Days 2-4** You have two bags of baby food. Remove one pellet from the bag labeled baby food. Add one half of a single pellet to your dish of Triops daily. If available use the included tiny spoon to add one spoon of crushed peeled carrot (not included) a few times a week.

**Days 5-7** Open second bag of powdered baby food. Use small spoon and add a tiny amount to your dish in the AM. In the PM add 1/3 of a single baby pellet.

**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.

#### Cleaning Your Dish...Adult Supervision Suggested

**Day 4** 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.

To clean up the debris, place your dish on a sheet of colored paper or piece of cloth that easily permits you to observe the baby Triops. Use your pipette to remove as much of the debris as possible. Dispose of it in the toilet. Remove excess debris and food daily.

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 and type. 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).

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

#### Feeding Your Triops

**Days 8-10** Feed a baby pellet in the morning and a small amount of adult food in the evening. Continue feeding a bit of crushed carrot if available. Other treats like bits of shrimp, cooked cauliflower, and fish will all help your Triops grow to maximum size.

*Here's how to prepare the Adult Food:* Crush 2 pellets between two spoons to make a fine



Count And Add  
15-20 Eggs



Remove Debris



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.

**Beginning on Day 11,** 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 to the bean-shaped tank. Here's how to switch to the new tank properly:

1. Wash your tank with natural spring water (**NO SOAP**), dry the tank with a paper towel and then fill it with the same natural spring water used to hatch Triops. Peel the thermometer off the hatching dish and stick it on the outside of the bean-shaped tank.
2. 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 ledge in your bean-shaped tank. Your Triops will love to explore the rocky ledge. You can also add live aquarium plants to the tank at this time. **Do not** add colored gravel or aquarium toys.
3. Float the dish of Triops in the new tank for 10 minutes to equalize the water temperatures.
4. Gently pour off 1/3 of the water from the dish into the new tank. Try not to pour out your Triops or any remaining carrot pieces.
5. Submerge the tip of the dish until it fills with the tank water.
6. Repeat this in 5 minutes.
7. 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.
8. Add a pinch of fresh crushed carrot two or three times weekly.

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

#### Feeding Adult Food to Your Triops. Reminder – Stop feeding baby food on day 11.

Instead, feed one uncrushed adult 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.

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

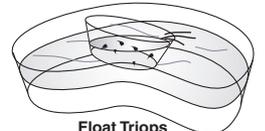
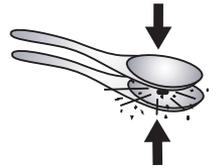
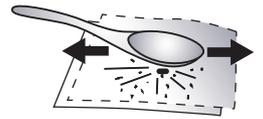
#### Day 10 and Beyond

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

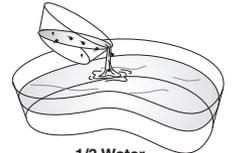
If the water turns cloudy, continue water changes using the same spring water used to hatch your Triops.

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. Pour 1/3 of the cloudy tank water into the toilet and slowly replace with fresh spring water. You can use the hatching dish to remove water if you like. If you added gravel or sand, other than the small packet we included, try not to stir it up, as the waste buildup in the gravel may hurt your Triops.
4. Repeat this process every 10 minutes until the water is clear.

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



Float Triops  
Hatching Dish



1/3 Water  
Changes x 2



Remove Debris

