Spawning trout lay eggs in gravel stream bottoms. Trout often spawn several times in their lives.

Eggs develop in the gravel and hatch into alevins.

Alevins stay in the gravel. They get food from their yolk sacs and grow bigger.

After the yolk sac is used up, the tiny fish are fry. They swim out of the gravel to find food. They will live in gentle water near the stream bank until they get bigger.

As the fry grow stronger, they can take up positions in the main current of the stream. They eat insects and other small animals that live in, or fall into, the stream.

Adults often eat other fish, even smaller trout. Although they may live longer, trout do not grow as large as their relatives, the salmon and steelhead, because they don’t go out to sea.

Some trout live in lakes. They may live there all their lives, but often spawn in streams.