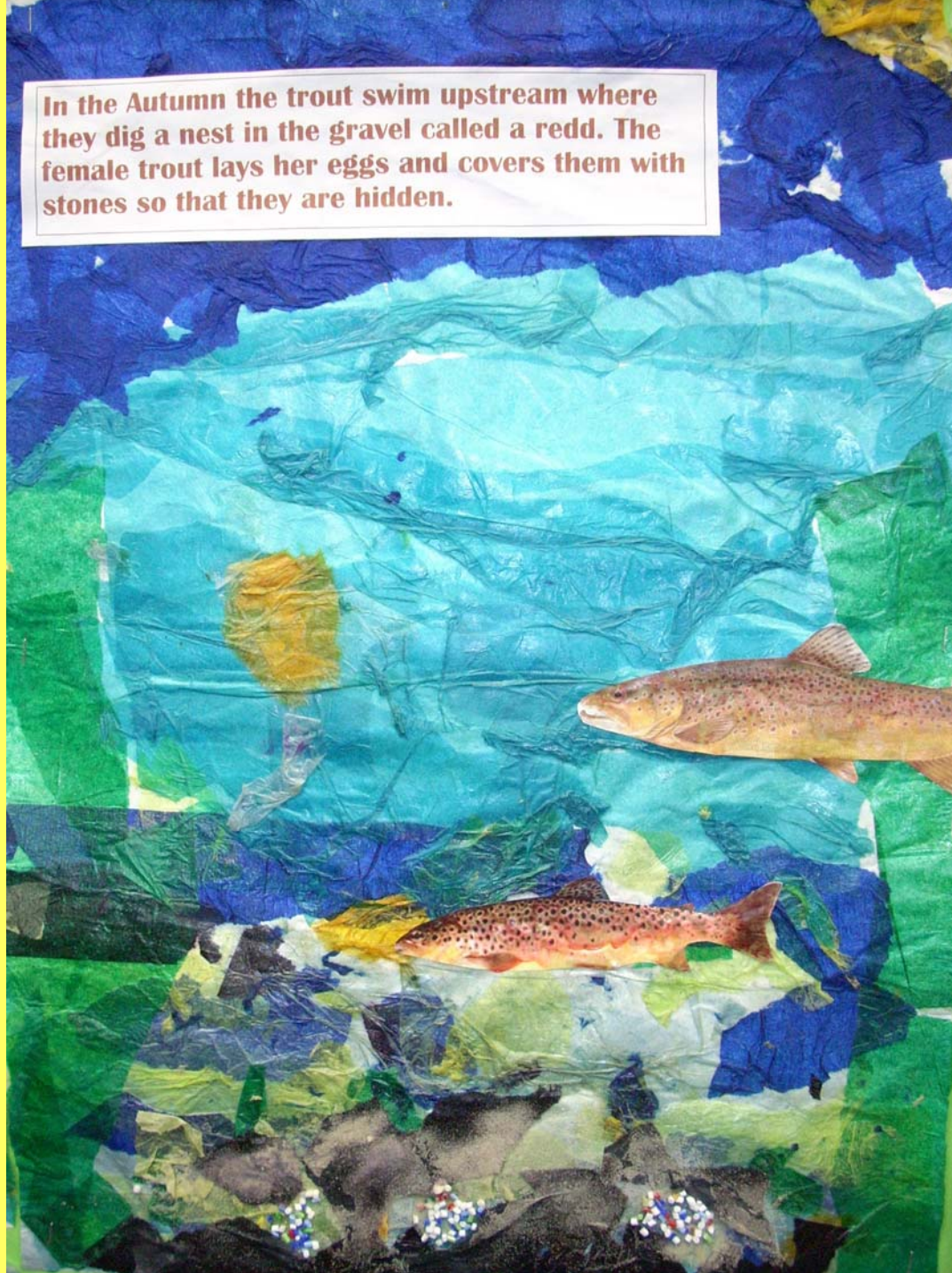


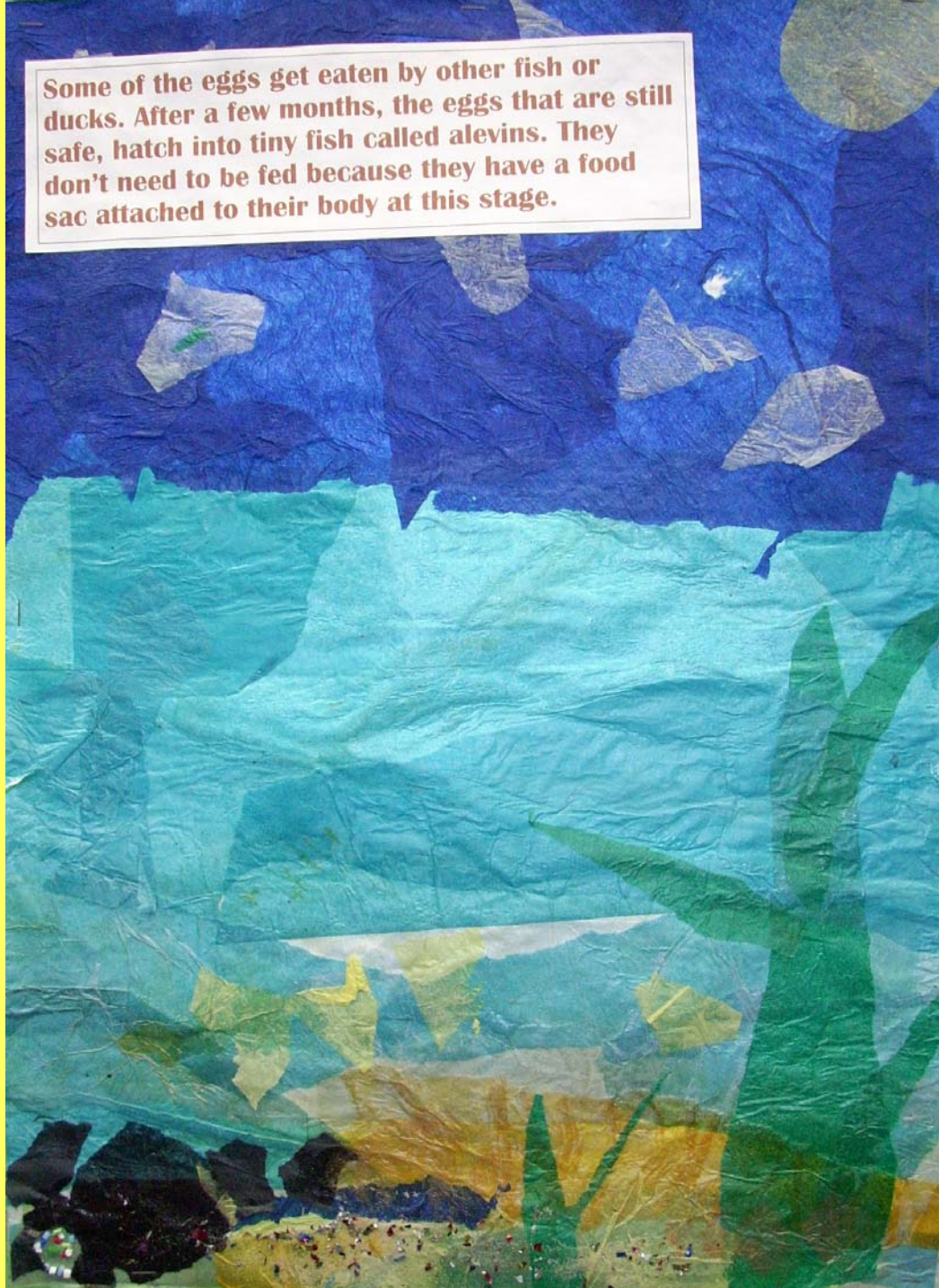
Brown trout live in cool clear rivers and streams that run through our countryside.



In the Autumn the trout swim upstream where they dig a nest in the gravel called a redd. The female trout lays her eggs and covers them with stones so that they are hidden.



Some of the eggs get eaten by other fish or ducks. After a few months, the eggs that are still safe, hatch into tiny fish called alevins. They don't need to be fed because they have a food sac attached to their body at this stage.



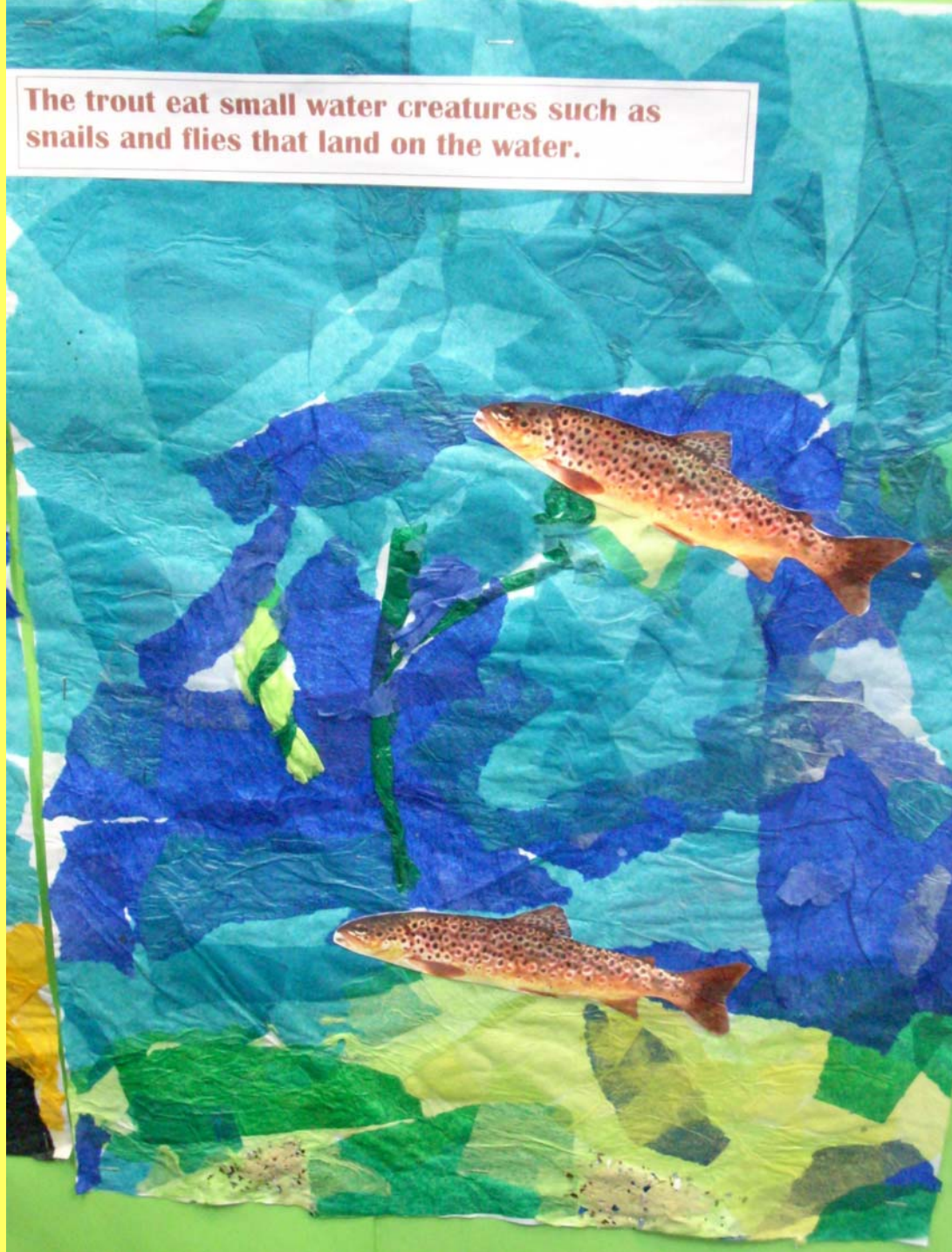
When the alevin has grown and its food sac has disappeared, we call it a fry. This is when we start to see it coming out looking for food.



As the trout grows he begins to get scales and looks more like an adult fish.



The trout eat small water creatures such as snails and flies that land on the water.



Trout can swim fast. They start to look for bigger creatures to eat but they have to look out for fish like pike because they will eat trout.



Some of the trout start to turn a silver colour and swim down stream to the bigger rivers and then into the sea. These fish now get called sea trout.



When sea trout are mature, they decide to swim back to the rivers where they were born. Their colour changes back to brown so that they are camouflaged against the colour of the river bed.



These fish lay between 4,000-12,000 eggs in a hollow in the gravel