

## 1. INSTALLING THE INCUBATOR

**Follow these steps to install your aquarium. The procedures are described for the two different types of filter (AquaClear and Fluval) and cooler. You may refer to the reference images that follow each step at any time.**

1. To maintain as much control and to be able to closely monitor the incubator, we suggest that you install it in the classroom rather than in another space such as a study room or another location with no regular supervision. Make sure you have a table or platform that is wide enough, stable, and leveled. The aquarium, once filled with water, is extremely heavy (180 kg) and will require proper support.
2. The filter, cooler and gravel should be rinsed with water to remove any dirt or dust left during the time it was in storage. If you are unsure of how to clean the aquarium before storing your incubator equipment, it would be best to rewash it along with all the components using a bleach solution (1/10), and then finally rinse it thoroughly several times with water. Do not rinse any components of the filtration system with bleach only. The solution must be dissolved.
3. Cover the bottom of the aquarium with the rocks and gravel that you have cleaned and disinfected beforehand. Only one layer of gravel is enough. Too much gravel will make it harder to see the fry after hatching.
4. Let the water run for three minutes before starting to fill the aquarium.
  - 4.1 **AquaClear:** Fill the aquarium with tap water at least 1 inch above the coil and let it sit for a minimum of 72 hours to allow the chlorine in the water to evaporate.
  - 4.2 **Fluval:** Fill the aquarium with tap water up to 2 inches from the rim of the aquarium and let it stand for a minimum of 72 hours to allow the chlorine in the water to evaporate.
5. Assembling and installing the filter
  - 5.1 **AquaClear:** insert the sponge at the bottom of the unit and place the carbon on top of it. Due to the age at which eggs and fry are kept, we do not have to add ammonia to the filter after the yolk sacs have been resorbed. Then, insert the carbon filter after it has been rinsed. Fill the reservoir with water and start the unit. Refer to manufacturer instructions.
  - 5.2 **Fluval:** DO NOT CONNECT THE FILTER UNIT UNTIL THE AQUARIUM IS FILLED WITH WATER AND THE INSTALLATION IS COMPLETE.

This filter unit works using gravity, which means that the system must be positioned below the aquarium. The height distance between the floor/filter unit should be within 1.4 meters from the top edge of the aquarium tank.

6. **Fluval:** Assembling the different hoses and components. If you have the white strainer hose, you must place it at the bottom of the aquarium and connect it to the filter's water inlet. Otherwise, simply use the standard nozzle and install it on the rim of the aquarium, then connect the other end to the filter's water inlet.

Connect a hose from the filter's water outlet to the cooler's water inlet.

Connect a third hose from the cooler's water outlet to the aquarium. Use the outlet nozzle provided for this purpose and install it on the rim of the aquarium.

Make sure that the hoses are not looped or twisted together, otherwise this could result in a system malfunction.

**DO NOT FILL THE RESERVOIR WITH WATER YET. DO NOT CONNECT THE FILTER AT THIS POINT.**



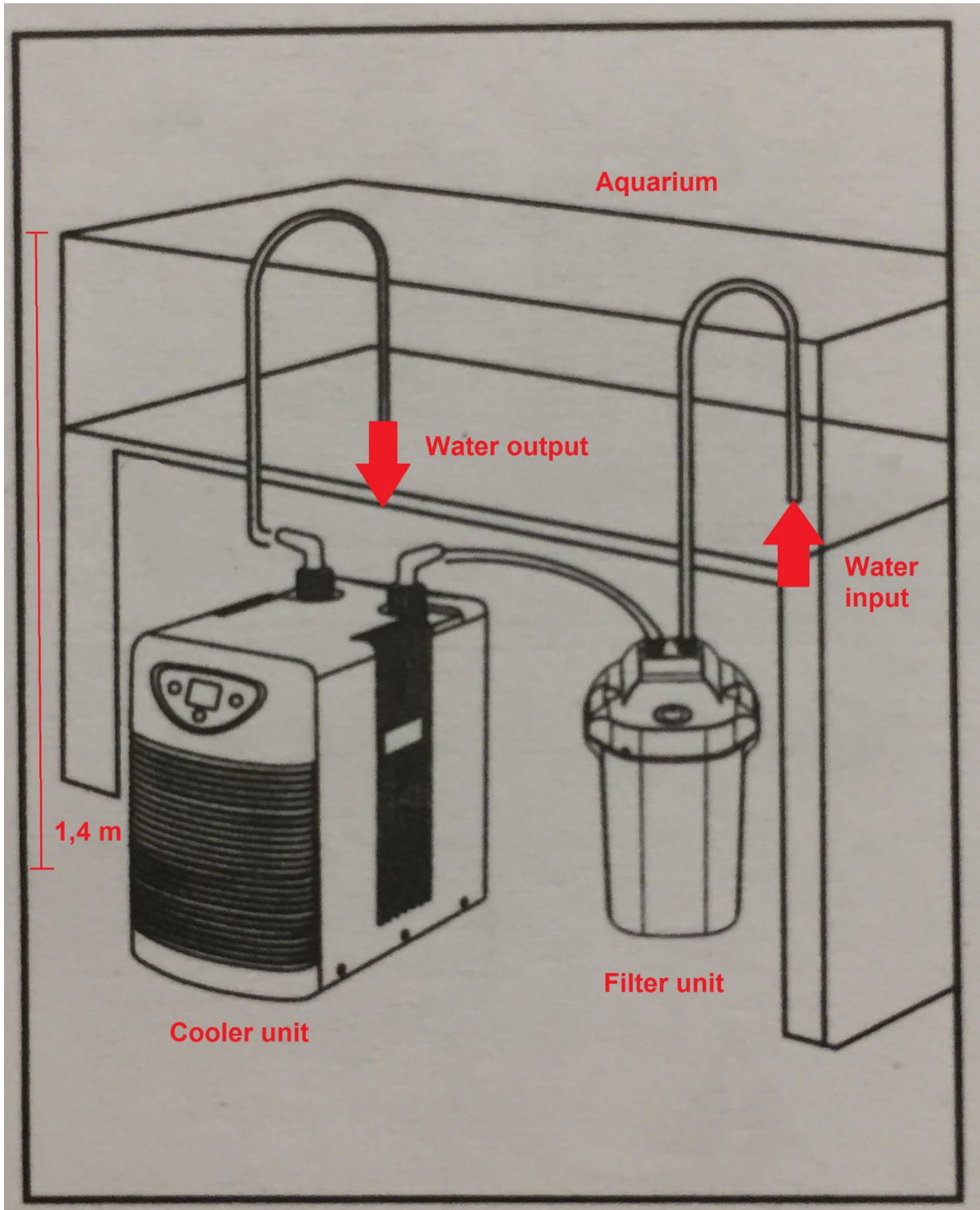
Pump the instant-prime handle by pulling it up and pushing it down several times (see picture).



Once you hear water being drawn into the unit, return the instant-prime handle to the down position. Air will be expelled through the output nozzle, causing the water in the aquarium to bubble. Once the bubbling in the tank stops, you will know the air is out of the system, and the reservoir is full. Plug the power cord into an electrical outlet and the pump should start immediately.

7. Adjust the water temperature according to the thermometer in the aquarium. Temperature should be maintained between 4 and 6 °C to ensure the survival of eggs and fry. Gradually decrease the temperature to 5 °C (1 °C per day).
8. Learn how to operate the system beforehand so that you are comfortable when the eggs arrive. Know where the ON/OFF controls are located. Experiment with the degree difference between your aquarium thermometer and the cooler unit's thermostat. Always rely on your aquarium's thermometer reading.
9. From the outset of the program, you should have a bucket or a large jug to keep cool water inside. Tap water must sit for at least 72 hours for chlorine to evaporate. Make sure that the water in the container is kept at a temperature of 4-5°C (refrigerator temperature) so as not to create a thermal shock in the aquarium. Eggs and fry are very sensitive to physicochemical changes in their environment. The bucket of water or the jug can be stored in the fridge. Make sure that the staff and the students at your school know about the situation so that no one inadvertently adds tap water directly into the aquarium, and so that you can be notified in case of a power outage, for example.
10. Make sure that the incubator is ready when the eggs arrive and that the temperature in the aquarium is stable - between 4 °C and 6 °C (thermometer reading). The representative who will deliver your eggs will be able to provide you with any information specific to your sample.

**Final assembly image of the incubator with the Fluval filter unit**





## Instructions for digitally controlled cooling units

### Internal cooling unit (old model):

- Start the unit
- Place the coil at the bottom of the aquarium
- Connect the compressor to a power source
- Set the lever switch to the **“ON”** position
- The temperature gage will begin flashing and the unit will start after 7 minutes

### Changing the temperature

- Press the menu button **“SP”** and it should begin flashing
- Press the button again and the digits for the temperature will appear
- Use the arrows to set the desired temperature
- Press the **“menu”** button again to confirm the desired temperature level

**To switch from Fahrenheit to Celsius:** (and vice versa) press both arrows simultaneously.

## Instructions for the ActiveAqua cooling unit

- Before turning on the cooler, make sure that the filter is working and that the water is circulating properly (see steps 5 and onwards describing the Fluval filter installation process)

→ Aquarium temperature display

- Press the **“SET”** button for more than 2 seconds or until the number **“2”** appears
- Press the **“SET”** button a second time and the number **“2”** will disappear, and this time the aquarium temperature will appear

→ Changing the temperature

- Press the **“SET”** button for more than 3 seconds until the number **“2”** reappears