Wetlands: Important to a Healthy Environment

Weaselhead Field Trip Student Worksheets

Name: *Date:*

Key words:

Invertebrates, biodiversity, bio-indicator, emergent plants, submergent plants, floating plants, nymph, larva, pupa

1) Why are wetlands known as "Nature's Kidneys"?

2) Biodiversity Chart **(the more variety, the more biodiversity there is)**

a) Count how many types of **aquatic plants** (in, on, or below the water) you see in each wetland and make a tally in the chart.

b) Count the number of different types of **aquatic invertebrates** in the wetland and make a tally in the chart.

c) From your biodiversity chart, which wetland has the highest biodiversity? (largest number of different aquatic organisms) _____

	Wetland 1	**Wetland 2**
Wetland Name		
Aquatic Plants:		
Aquatic Invertebrates:		
Other: (Fish, eggs, frogs)		

Total number of different aquatic organisms:		

Beaver Lagoon

1. **Draw and name one of the land or terrestrial plants around the Beaver Lagoon.**

2. **Draw and name three of the invertebrates that were in your wetland study today.**

3. **Bio-indicators of water quality in the Beaver Lagoon**

   a) **An aquatic invertebrate that shows a high oxygen level in the water is the**

   _____

   b) **An aquatic invertebrate that shows a low pollution level in the water is the**

   _____

Oxbow

1. Draw and name three of the examples of aquatic organisms you found today. These could be larvae, pupae, spiders, minnows, frogs or eggs!

2. Name and draw at least one of the aquatic plants you saw in this wetland. It could be an emergent, submergent or floating plant.

Optional: Your group will act out a food chain using some of the things you saw in this wetland.

Example: A Water Tiger eating a Cranefly nymph. What eats the Water Tiger Nymph??

Beaver Pond Sounds

Sound types	**Record each time you hear the sound.**
Birds	
Frogs	
People	
Bikes	
Beaver/Muskrat	
Airplanes	
Insects	
Other	