

The Quest for the Best Water Test

A Grade 8 school program developed in partnership between the Kerry Wood Nature Centre & Red Deer River Watershed Alliance



Where there's a will, there's a way

- 2021 discussions between KWNC & RDRWA begin
- Target audience?
 - Grade 5
 - Grade 8**
- Delivery method?
 - In-person at wetland**
 - In-person at school
 - Online
- May 2022 first programs delivered to Grade 8 classes

The Gr8est Water Q&A

<https://tinyurl.com/39b7dc85>

Are you smarter
than an 8th grader?



It's Time to Start Science-ing!

Temperature	
Salinity	
Hardness	
Dissolved Oxygen	
Odour	
Colour	
Clarity	

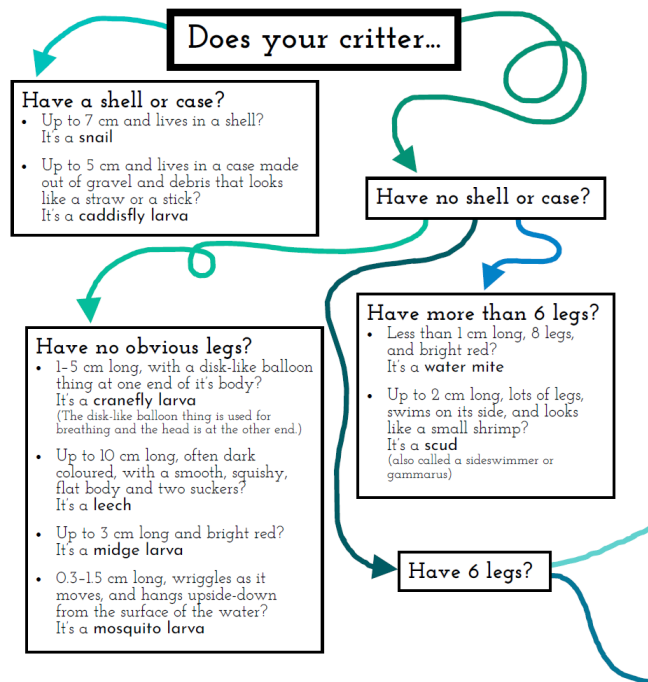
Pond Fun for Everyone



What's in your bucket?

Critter #1	
Drawing:	Colour:
	Size:
	Number of legs:
	Critter Identification:

Pond Critter Identification Key



B is for Bioindicator

Cannot Handle Any Pollution

- ☐ Stonefly Nymph
- ☐ Caddisfly Larva

Can Handle A Tiny Bit Of Pollution

- ☐ Scud
- ☐ Damselfly Nymph
- ☐ Dragonfly Nymph

Can Handle Some Pollution

- ☐ Leech

Can Handle A Lot Of Pollution

- ☐ Midge larva
- ☐ Snail

The moment you've all been waiting for...

Based on everything your team tested and observed today, rate the quality of this freshwater:

- A. 100% pristine! Best. Water. Ever.
- B. Pretty darn good.
- C. Meh—Could be better, could be worse.
- D. Maybe I'd swim in it if you paid me.
- E. Ick! Keep that stuff away from me!!



In your team's opinion, what is the best water test? Why?

Results & Teacher Feedback

- 105 Grade 8 students participated in spring 2022.
- Three Grade 8 teachers filled out our feedback form.
All three teachers agreed:
 - The level of information presented was just right.
 - The length of time per topic/experience was just right.
 - The quality of the program compared to the cost was 5/5.
 - Yes, would attend the program again.

Results & Teacher Feedback

"Some students who are normally not engaged enjoyed the water testing and actually led their group. Many students really enjoyed trying to identify the organisms they caught."

The Quest for the Best Water Test

A Grade 8 school program developed in partnership between the Kerry Wood Nature Centre & Red Deer River Watershed Alliance

