



What kinds of macroinvertebrates are in the pond?

By the second graders at the Village School of North Bennington, Vermont



We are near the pond in Marge Manning's field.

Procedure:

We left school at 9:00 in the morning on September 26, 2016. We walked to the pond in the field near Marge Manning's house. We used big plastic buckets to hold samples of pond water. We dipped nets and strainers on long poles into the





pond to collect macroinvertebrates. We put the living organisms that we caught into the buckets of pond water. We brought the buckets of pond water to our classroom at school to take a close look for any macroinvertebrates.

At school we worked in small groups. We poured a sample of the pond water into a white bowl. We looked carefully at the pond water. We used field guide sheets with pictures of pond macroinvertebrates



to identify the organisms in each sample of our pond water. We recorded our data. After a sample was examined, it was put into a “finished” bucket. When we had identified all of the macroinvertebrates in all

of the samples of our pond water, we returned the pond water and the living organisms back to the pond.

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The next day in class we tallied all of our small group data together. We looked at our totals for each macroinvertebrate that we found. We decided to include the tadpoles even though they are not macroinvertebrates. We recorded what we noticed in our results.

Data:

name of macroinvertebrate *	total
Mayfly nymph	1
leech	7
dragonfly nymph	6
water spider	6
water flea	23
pond snail	1
ram's horn snail	17
damselfly nymph	54
tadpole *(not a macroinvertebrate)	5
caddis fly nymph	1
water strider (pond skater)	28
greater water boatman	9
water beetle	22
beetle larva	7

We noticed these things:

Damselfly nymph is the most with 54.

Mayfly nymph, pond snail, and caddis fly nymph are the same with 1.

Water flea has an odd number with 23.

Water beetle (22) has one less than water flea (23).

Dragonfly nymph and water spider both have 6.

Beetle larva and leech both have 7. 7 is odd.

Water strider is second highest with 28.

Dragonfly nymph has 6. 6 is even.

Mayfly nymph, pond snail, and caddis fly nymph are the lowest with 1.

Water beetle has 22. It is even.

Ram's horn snail (17) is more than pond snail (1).

Water strider is even with 28.

We found more water beetles (22) than beetle larva (7).

We found 5 tadpoles. They are not macroinvertebrates.

Leech (7) is 1 more than water spider (6).

Water spider (6), water strider (28), and water beetle (22) add to make 56.