

Community School of Davidson  
Davidson, NC, USA  
Fall 2011



Pond at Roosevelt Wilson Park

### Introduction:

Four sections of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at the Community School of Davidson took samples of the macro invertebrates from a pond that is within walking distance of our school.

### Hypothesis:

We think that the macro invertebrates in our pond will be unlike the macro invertebrates elsewhere in the world, because they are in different parts of the world with different climates and seasons.

### Procedure:

1. Collect water from the pond in a bucket.
2. Pour a little bit of water into a white Styrofoam tray.
3. Dip the net into the pond and scoop up water and invertebrates.
4. Empty the net into the Styrofoam tray by letting the net fall inside out into the water in the tray.
5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 ten times.
6. Look into the tray and try to identify what macro invertebrates are present.
7. Count or estimate how many of each kind you have.
8. Record the count on the macro invertebrate identification sheet using tally marks.
9. Dump the Styrofoam tray contents into a big bucket until the count is complete.
10. Return the contents of the big bucket to the pond.
11. Compare our data to the other schools collecting macro invertebrates.

## Materials:

- Large and small aquatic nets
- Big and small buckets
- Styrofoam trays (from the grocery store meat department)
- Pond water
- Pond
- Identification sheet
- Pencil

## Data:

<b>Macro Invertebrate</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Beetle	17
Crayfish (Crawdada)	13
Damselfly Nymph(Larva)	57
Dragonfly Nymph (Larva)	18
Giant Water Bug	1
Leech	21
Mayfly Nymph (Larva)	5
Midge Larva	8
Mosquito Larva	23
Nematode	4
Phantom Midge Larva	2
Snails	24
Water Boatman	10
Water Fleas	149
Water Mites	117
Water Spider	13
Water Strider	706
Worms	37

## Conclusion:

The macro invertebrates in our pond were similar to the macro invertebrates found in ponds elsewhere in the world. A comparison with other schools showed that they also found: damselfly nymphs, water fleas, dragonfly nymphs, mayfly nymphs, midge larvae, snails, bristle worms, water spiders, water beetles, nematodes, water boatman, water mites, and leeches. Differences in climate and season do not significantly change the macro invertebrates present in the ponds. Perhaps water quality did make a difference.

## Bibliography:

[Http://www.ciese.org/curriculum/bucketproj/studentarea.html](http://www.ciese.org/curriculum/bucketproj/studentarea.html)

## Acknowledgement:

Thanks to Luke S. for writing the report for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade class.