

## Durant Elementary School Third Grade Classes

Our hypothesis was that the organisms we found in our pond water would be different than the organisms found in other ponds in other places.

Our reasons were that different ponds might have different temperatures, weather, sizes, amounts of oxygen, kinds of water plants, and kinds and numbers of predators.

Both classes worked in groups of three to identify the organisms in about 4 gallons of pond water from Wiese Slough, a local wetland area. We used drawings of organisms on the Lowater Benthic Macroinvertebrate Key to help us.

Here is a list of the organisms we found:

Organisms found in pond water	Number of organisms
<b>Whirligig beetle</b>	10
<b>Dragonfly nymph</b>	6
<b>Damselfly nymph</b>	1
<b>Crawling water beetle</b>	5
<b>Water penny</b>	1
<b>Black fly</b>	1
<b>Orb snail</b>	7
<b>Leech</b>	6
<b>Water mite</b>	6
<b>Water spider</b>	5
<b>Water flea (daphnia)</b>	23
<b>Aquatic worm</b>	1

<b>Water scavenger beetle</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Backswimmer</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Alderfly</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Caddisfly larva</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Tadpoles (not macroinvertebrates)</b>	<b>6</b>