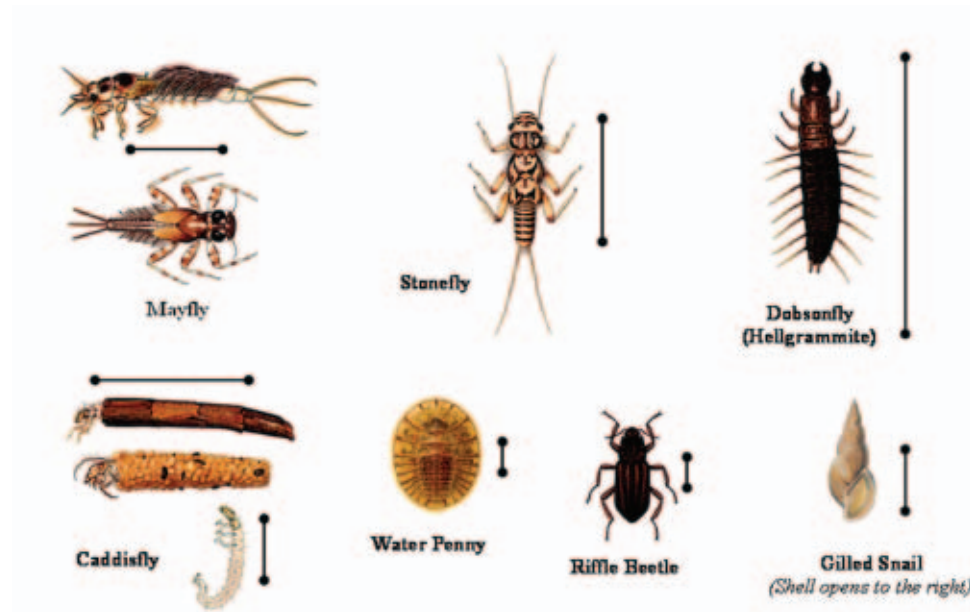


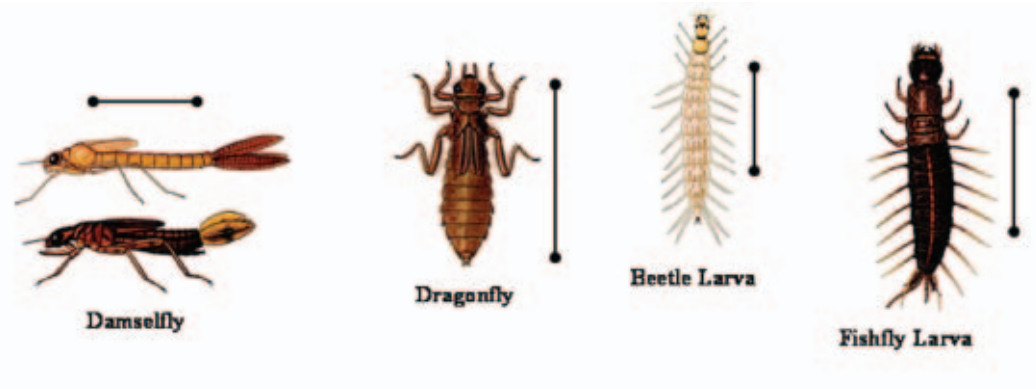
MACROINVERTEBRATE MANIA!

Design your own experiment ...



Group 1 Taxa

These organisms are generally pollution intolerant or sensitive and their presence generally signifies good water quality.



Group 2 Taxa

These organisms are somewhat pollution tolerant and their presence generally signifies fair water quality.

... HERE'S HOW! MAKE IT HAPPEN!

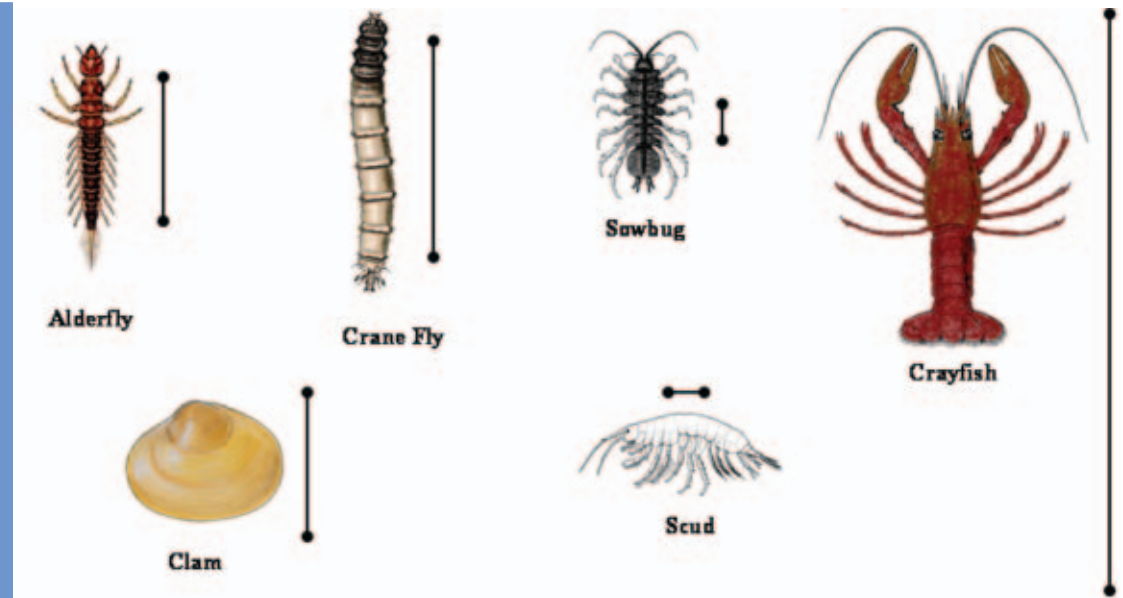
1. Choose a tributary in the Illinois River watershed with a site where you have permission to access and sample.
2. Make a kick net using broom handle and a window screen. (Visit www.irwp.org for kick net design instructions)
3. Let two people hold the net on the bottom of the stream.
4. Another person stands a few feet upstream (where the water is coming from) and does a "bug kick" by shuffling their feet and stirring up the rocks. This makes organisms jump up and get washed into your net.
6. Empty the net's contents into a light-colored tub with some water to identify and count your collection. Keep track of how many you find in each category then set them free!
7. Contact the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's Stream Team program (www.agfc.com) or the Oklahoma Conservation Commission's Blue Thumb program (www.okcc.state.ok.us) to become a registered Stream Team and report your findings!

MORE MACROINVERTEBRATE MANIA!

The insects and crustaceans in a stream can explain a lot about the ecosystem quality of the watershed. Sensitive organisms cannot tolerate very much pollution or disturbance. Pollution tolerant organisms can withstand much more. Can you find out what is living in a stream near you? These organisms are near the base of most food webs. Why is this important?

Group 2 Taxa

These organisms are somewhat pollution tolerant and their presence generally signifies fair water quality.



Group 3 Taxa

These organisms are generally pollution tolerant and can be found in any quality water.



The bars indicate relative size of these invertebrates.

Illustrations by: Arwin V. Provonsha, Aquatic Entomology, 1981, Amy Bartlett Wright, A Guide to Common Freshwater Invertebrates of North America, 2002