

# Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Research Questions

## *Field Biology*

These questions will form the framework for the background information you will compile for your aquatic macroinvertebrate study. Answer each question in 2-3 sentences using reliable internet sources (look for .gov, .edu, or private research institute websites – Wikipedia is also usually a reliable source). When you are done, send your work as an attachment to dan.bregar@corvallis.k12.or.us with the subject line “**per X your name AMI Research**”.

1. What is the WITRB question that we as a class have decided to study?
2. What is an aquatic macroinvertebrate? How do AMI's differ from other aquatic organisms, and how do they differ from terrestrial macroinvertebrates?
3. Name and briefly describe 2-3 different organisms that use AMI's as a food source.
4. What are the four functional feeding groups that we are using to classify AMI's? What are the food sources for each of these functional feeding groups?
5. AMI's are often used as indicators of water quality. What does this mean, and why are AMI's so useful for this purpose?
6. Describe, in general, the life cycle of mayflies (order Ephemeroptera). (The life cycle of mayflies is very similar to the life cycle for stoneflies, dragonflies, true flies, and caddis flies.)
7. What are some ways that the second factor in our WITRB question might directly affect AMI's? In particular, describe ways that the second factor might affect the water quality, and therefore the habitat, of AMI's.