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Aquatic insects

- Rivers = low tech ecosystems
  - Change from headwaters to the sea
  - Ever-changing
- Micro-habitats
  - Leaves in Pools - High Nutrient/ Low Oxygen
  - Leaves in Rapids - High Nutritient/ High Oxygen
  - Rocks in Pools - Low Nutritient/ Low Oxygen
  - Rocks in Rapids - Low Nutritient/ High Oxygen
- Collect invertebrates
  - 1. Work in pairs
    - Two Tweezers
    - One plastic dishpan
    - Four Whirl-Paks
  - 2. Name location, date, habitat, your inititals
  - 3. Pour 50ml of 80% alcohol in the whirl-paks
  - 4. Collect insect larvae
    - Collect leavepacks, examine them in the plastic dishpan, pick out the insects that move and transfer them into the whirlpak
    - Same procedure for rocks
- Physical characteristics
  - Width
  - Air temperature
  - Stream temperature
  - Depth
  - Velocity
  - Dissolved oxygen
- Influenced by chemical, physical and biological characteristics
- Insect body
  - Head
  - Thorax (6 legs + wings)
  - Abdomen
- Environmental Variables
  - Pollution levels
  - Temperature
  - Nutrient Concentration
  - Dissolved Oxygen
  - Food sources