Visual Assessment
for StreamWatch Schools
(Grades 3-5)

School/Site: _____

Investigator(s): _____

Date & Time: _____

Check off the most accurate description:

Current Weather Conditions

◯ Sunny   ◯ Rain

◯ Partly Cloudy ◯ Snow

Air Temperature _____°C

Time Since Last Rain or Snow
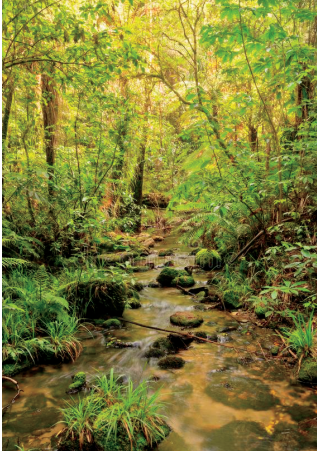
◯ Today
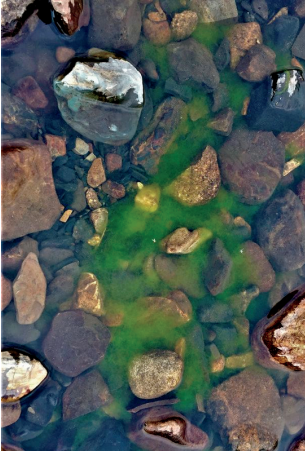◯ 1-2 days ago
◯ More than 2 days ago
◯ Unknown

Water Conditions: (Circle the term that best describes what you see.)

Smell	No Smell | Stinky | Rotten eggs | Poop | Gasoline Other: _____
Color	Clear | Green | Blue-green | Brown | Yellow | Gray Other: _____
Turbidity (Water Clarity)	Clear | Slightly Cloudy | Cloudy (Muddy) | Milky
Water Movement	<u>Streams</u> Slow | Moderate | Swift | Rapids <u>Lakes</u> Still | Ripples | Waves | Choppy

Land Use Characteristics: (Circle term that best describes what you see.)

Natural	Houses, schools, lawns, roads	Hiking trails, parks, golfing	Farms	Factories, mines, power plant

Stream Characteristics: (Circle terms that best describes what you see.)

Trees Canopy (Shading the water)	Woody Debris (Sticks, roots, fallen trees in the stream)	Plants in the water	Algae
Open	None	None	None
Mostly open	Rare	Rare	Rare
Mostly shaded	Some	Some	Some
Fully shaded	Many	Many	Many

Additional Observations / Sketch:

Biological Assessment
for StreamWatch Schools
(Elementary School)

Benthic Macroinvertebrate Identification & Scoring (check off all that apply)

Sensitive	Less Sensitive	Tolerant
___ Stoneflies ___ Case-Building and Free-Living Caddisflies ___ Mayflies ___ Gilled Snails/Right-Handed Snails ___ Crane Flies ___ Watersnipe Flies ___ Dobsonflies/Fishflies	___ Net-Spinning Caddisflies ___ Water Pennies ___ Riffle Beetles ___ Alderflies ___ Crayfish ___ Scuds ___ Dragonflies ___ Damselflies ___ Planarians	___ Aquatic Worms ___ Midge Flies ___ Black Flies ___ Sowbugs ___ Leeches ___ Clams ___ Lunged Snails/Left-Handed Snails/Limpets
___ # of checks x 3 =_____	___ # of checks x 2 =_____	___ # of checks x 1 =_____

Add the three totals from each column for your water quality rating = _____

Water Quality Rating (check off the rating that matches your data)

___ Excellent (>22)   ___ Good (17-22)   ___ Fair (11-16)   ___ Poor (< 11)

Additional Observations:

Chemical Assessment

for StreamWatch Schools

(Grades 3-5: Earth Force Watershed Field Trip)

Chemical Assessment (circle the best answer)

Water temperature: _____ °C

Nitrate (ppm):

0 ppm   5 ppm   20 ppm   40 ppm

Phosphate (ppm):

1 ppm   2 ppm   4 ppm

pH:

4   5   6   7   8   9   10

Turbidity (JTU):

0 JTU   40 JTU   100 JTU

Dissolved Oxygen (ppm):

0 ppm   4 ppm   8 ppm

Percent Saturation (%)

<50%   51-70%   71-90%   91-110%

Salinity:

_____ ppt