

## Vocabulary: Pond Ecosystem



### Vocabulary

- Abiotic factor – a non-living component of the environment.
  - Examples of abiotic factors in a pond ecosystem include temperature and oxygen concentration.
- Biotic factor – a living component of the environment.
  - Examples of biotic factors in a pond ecosystem include fish, insects, algae, plants, and bacteria.
- Concentration – the amount of a substance in a given volume.
- Mean – the average of a group of numbers.
  - To find the mean of a set of values, add all the values up and then divide by the number of values.
  - For example, the mean of the set (3, 7, 2) is  $(3 + 7 + 2) \div 3$ , or 4.
- Oxygen – a colorless, odorless gas in the air we breathe.
  - Oxygen is used by plants and animals to get energy from food.
  - Air is approximately 21% oxygen, but there is much less dissolved oxygen in water. In a normal breath, a human takes in about as much oxygen as there is in 15 liters of water.
- Parts per million – a measure of concentration.
  - Parts per million (ppm) is used to measure very small concentrations.
  - For example, a dissolved oxygen concentration of 20 ppm means that there are 20 units of oxygen for every million units of water.
- Photosynthesis – a process plants use to produce food from carbon dioxide and water.
  - Oxygen is produced by photosynthesis.

