

Ophir School's Seasonal Water Quality Study

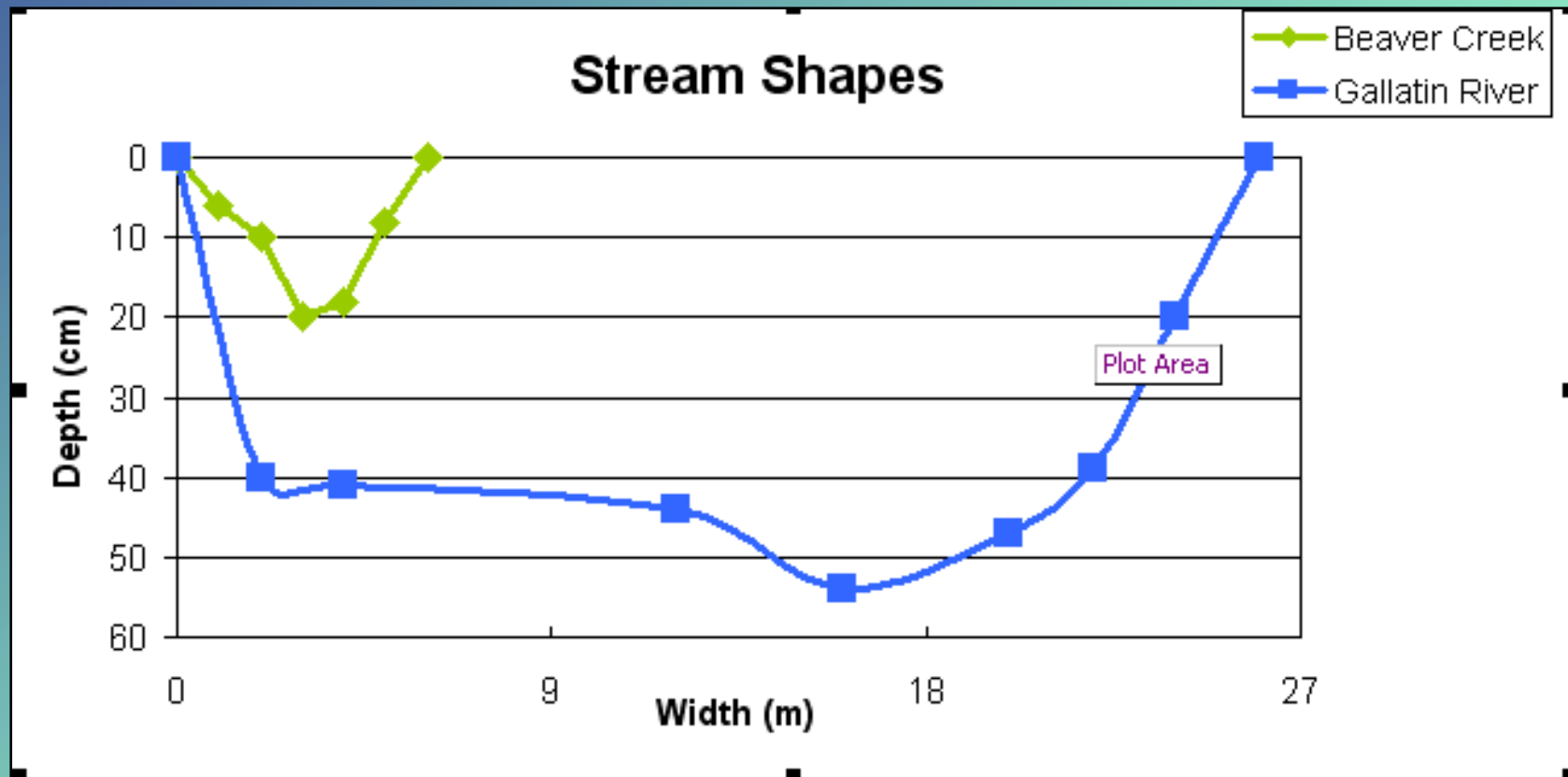
By the 4th grade class

What will students discuss tonight?

- Physical characteristics of the Gallatin River like flow and discharge
- Biological characteristics of the Gallatin River like Benthic Macroinvertebrates
- Chemical characteristics of the Gallatin River like pH and Electrical Conductivity
- Strategies to continue our efforts

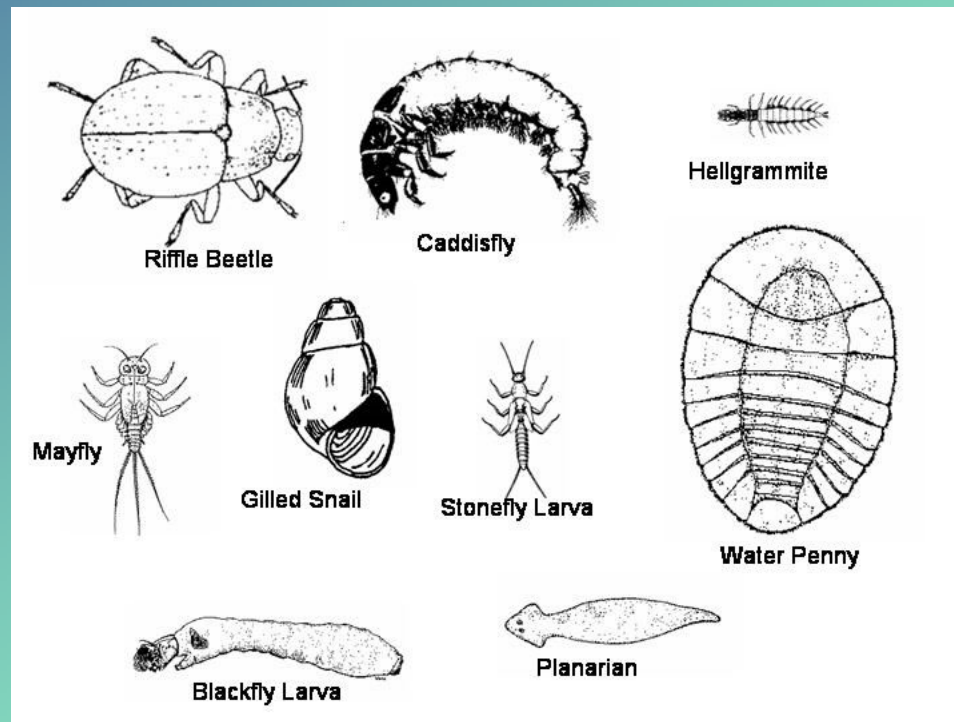
Measuring Flow

- How much and fast water is moving.
- Changes throughout the year?



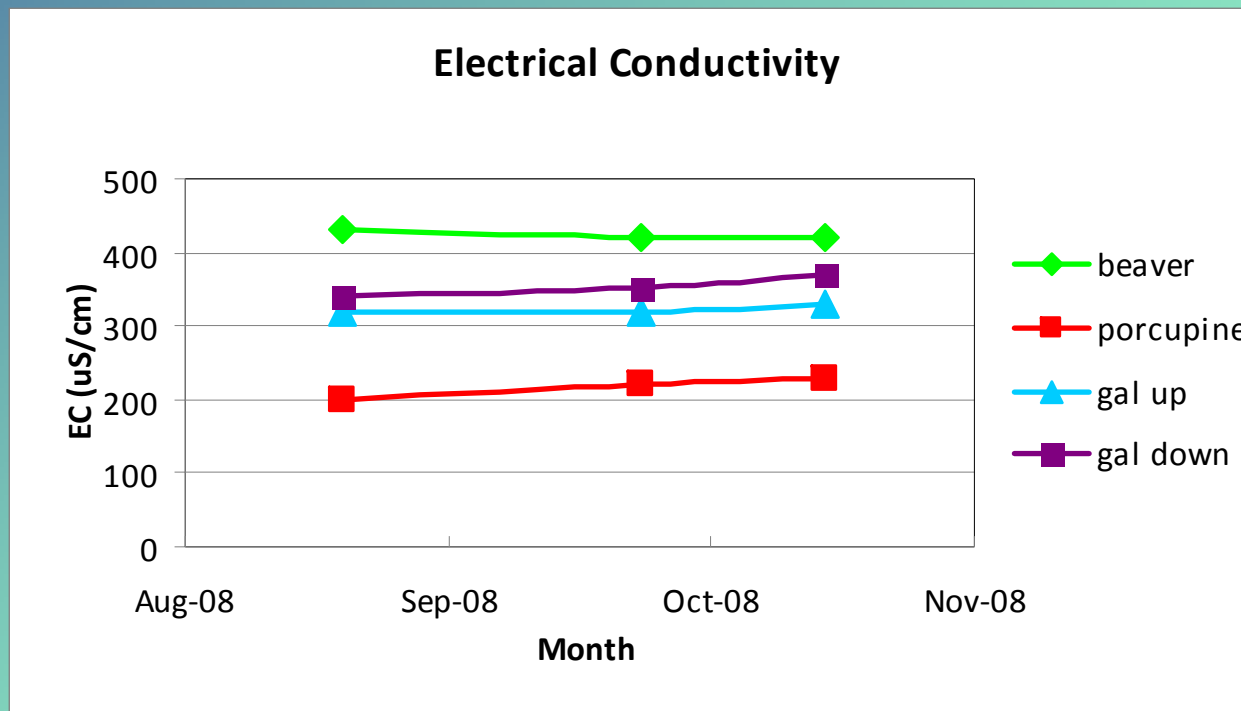
Benthic Macroinvertebrates

- Bugs living at the bottom of the streams can be indicators of water quality
- Lots of caddisflies, mayflies, and stoneflies in the Gallatin, so we have healthy water



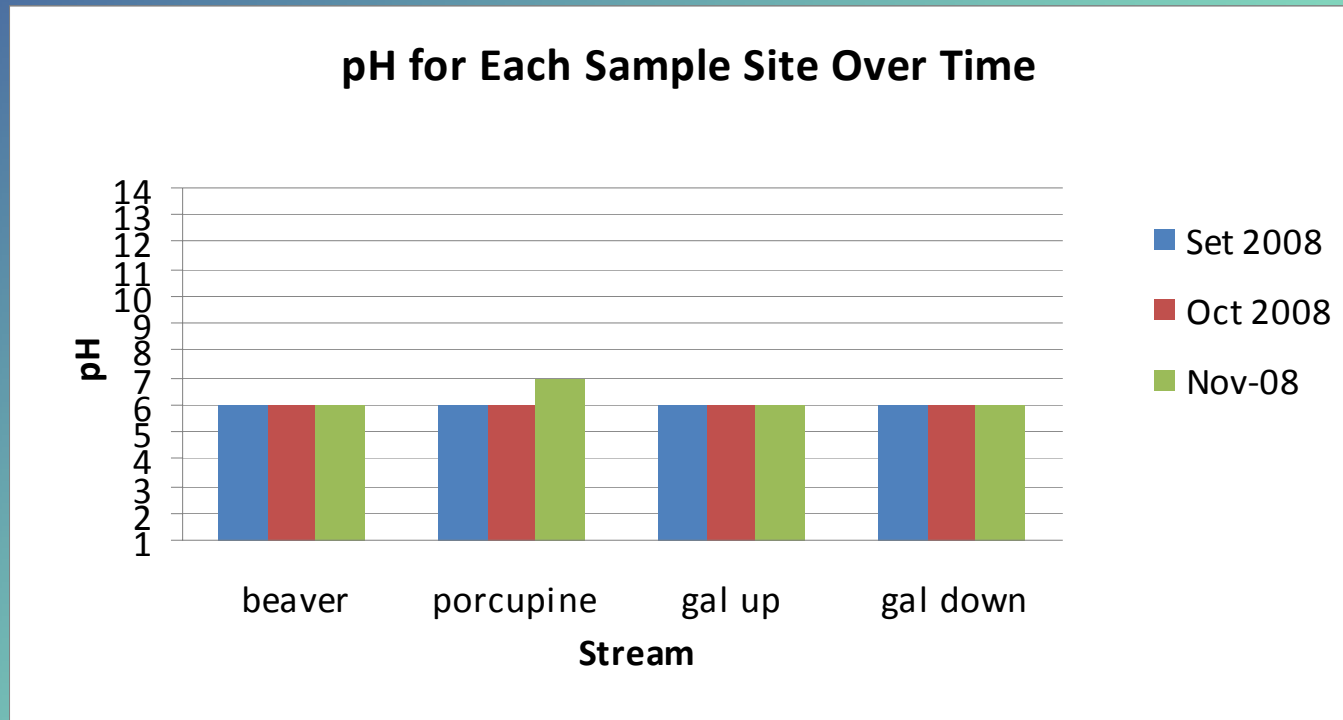
Electrical Conductivity

- How many minerals/salts are dissolved in the water
- Minerals come from rocks and soil in and around the river
- Our EC is healthy – not too salty or unsalty



pH

- Gallatin River and its tributaries are around 6-7 which is healthy for local plants, animals, and humans



What can we do to preserve the health of the Gallatin River?

- Not pollute
- Continue to collect data, graph it and present it to you
- Work together with other researchers studying the river
- Give our data to other people who could use it like BWTF or BSI