

# Abiotic Answer Key for Parents and Teachers

1. Non- living chemical and physical parts of the environment that affect living organisms and the functioning of ecosystems
2. Dissolved Oxygen, Nitrites, phosphorus, and pH
3. You can use a thermometer to measure temperature of the water temperature. One can use a pH scale to measure the pH of the water, the test will tell you how acidic/basic water is. Using DO test will determine how much oxygen can support life (fish) in a waterway.
4. Turbidity, Oxygen, Temperature, and pH can all be impacted by a influx of rain.
5. Parts Per Million
6. Algal blooms or Eutrophication – Too many nutrients in the water (nitrates and phosphates) can lead to an unhealthy waterway. Typically ponds and lake are more prone to eutrophication but streams and rivers can also have these problems.
7. State of the James (Link to our website: <https://thejamesriver.org/about-the-james-river/state-of-the-james/>)