

Guiding Questions – Viva la Difference! Presentation

An introduction to the biological productivity of Florida lakes and the characteristics that make them so unique.



Name: _____ Class Period: _____ Date: _____

- 1) Name at least two characteristics that most people use to describe lakes:
 - a. _____ and
 - b. _____

- 2) Lake scientists (limnologists) have devised a way to _____ lakes. It's known as the _____ classification system."

- 3) The term "*trophic*" originated from the Greek language and it means _____.

- 4) Fill in the appropriate word(s) to finish each sentence:
 - a. The prefix "oligo" means _____
 - b. The prefix "meso" means _____
 - c. The prefix "eu" means _____
 - d. The prefix "hyper" means _____

- 5) Scientists gather data or measurements on four basic characteristics or "parameters" and then use the information to decide the correct trophic category for a lake. The four parameters are:
_____, _____, _____,
and _____.

- 6) Chlorophyll are tiny green pigments found in most algae. Oligotrophic lakes tend to have _____ concentrations of chlorophyll.

- 7) Phosphorus and nitrogen are _____ that are required for the survival of all plants and algae. It's also a prime ingredient found in fertilizers that we use on our lawns and gardens.

- 8) Hypereutrophic lakes tend to have _____ amounts of nutrients.

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- 9) Water clarity can be measured with a device known as a Secchi _____.
- 10) If we know the trophic state of a lake, we can get a good idea of its biological _____.
- 11) Circle the best word in this sentence: A eutrophic lake will have LESS / MORE fish.
- 12) Large _____ (known as macrophytes) are also an important part of a lake's trophic state.
- 13) Aquatic plants can be classified into three main groups: _____, submersed, floating and _____.
- 14) Florida lakes generally support an abundance of plants because: _____

- 15) _____ plants can fool us into classifying a lake in the wrong category. They can grow so abundantly that they make the water appear to be very _____.
- 16) Aside from invasive plants, a lake's trophic state can be influenced by _____ and/or _____ factors.
- 17) A _____ would be an example of a *natural* influence. Stormwater runoff is a _____ influence.
- 18) _____ is another word for "taking care of" a lake.