

Vocabulary List

Adaptations: characteristics that help plants and animals survive.

Coldwater fish: fish living in water at temperatures from 50 to 65 degrees Fahrenheit.

Coolwater fish: fish living in water at temperatures from 65 to 70 degrees Fahrenheit.

Detritus: decaying leaves, sticks and animal material.

Floodplains: low, flat areas next to rivers, lakes, and coastal areas that periodically flood when the water is high.

Flow: the water running in a river or stream.

Headwaters: the beginning of a river.

Meanders: bends or curves in a stream or river.

Pool: wide, deep water with a slow current.

Riffle: shallow fast water with a lot of rocks that break the surface.

Riverbank: the land next to the river.

River Continuum: the transition from the headwaters to a larger river.

Run: deep, fast water with no rocks breaking the surface.

Tributary: a river that feeds into another river, rather than ending in a lake, pond, or ocean.

Undercut Bank: outside bank of a meander where water has washed away soil.

Warmwater fish: fish living in water at temperatures from 70 to 85 degrees Fahrenheit.

