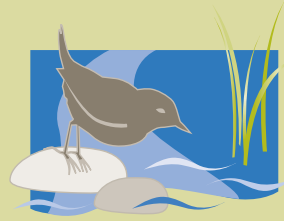


My River Journal



BIRD OBSERVATIONS:

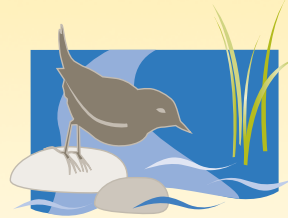
Can you find an American Dipper or other birds that live near the river?

1. Take a walk with an adult and find a spot to sit next to a river or stream.
2. Close your eyes and listen for birds singing.

3. Now open your eyes and try to find those singing birds. In this box, make a tally mark for each bird that you hear and see.

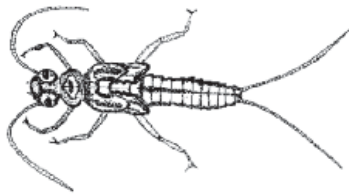
4. Try sketching one of the birds in the box below.

My River Journal

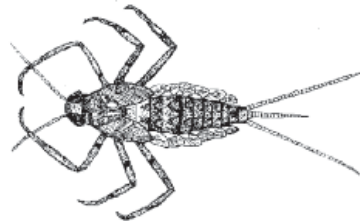


SEARCHING for MACROINVERTEBRATES

With an adult, find a section of stream to explore. Look for areas that do not have strong currents or deep waters (*you don't want to fall in!*) and are easy to get to from the streambank. Look under rocks and see if you can find any macroinvertebrates that American Dippers dive for and eat. Below are a few examples of what you might find!



Stonefly



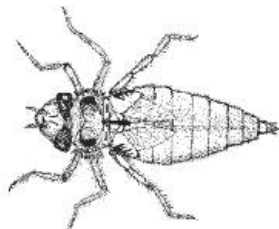
Mayfly



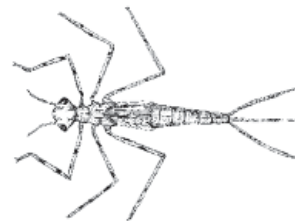
Netspinning Caddisfly



Case-building Caddisfly



Dragonfly



Damselfly

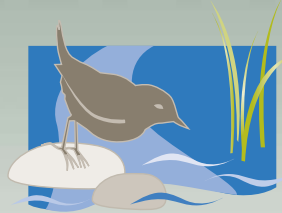


Aquatic Snail



Aquatic Earthworm

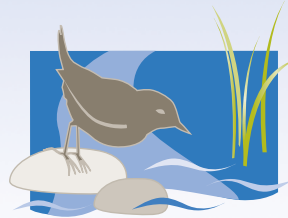
My River Journal



MACROINVERTEBRATE DRAWINGS by YOU

Sketch the macroinvertebrates you find. Since these creatures live underwater, make sure to give them the adaptations they need to survive such as eyes, gills, tails, and legs.

My River Journal



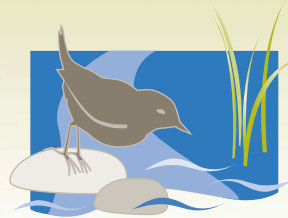
HABITAT INVESTIGATION

Take a moment when you are next to a river or stream to look for all the things that an American Dipper or any bird needs for a healthy habitat:

1. Space
2. Food
3. Water
4. Shelter

Use the space below to sketch your observation, trying to include the four things that create a healthy habitat.

My River Journal



MY VERY OWN AMERICAN DIPPER

Draw an American Dipper in its natural habitat.



Photo by Dale G. Armstrong

Can You Spot the Nest and the American Dipper?

If you look closely in the middle of this big rock, you can see a dipper nest created out of moss that has now turned a greenish-brown color. The adult American Dipper in flight (bottom right) was spotted on the banks of the Fryingpan River near Basalt, Colorado by photographer Dale G. Armstrong.