

# Freshwater Monitoring – Temperature

Aim: To measure the temperature of the water.

<p><b>Equipment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• thermometer</li> <li>• Stream Health Monitoring Data Recording Sheet</li> </ul>	<p><b>Method</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Holding the thermometer at the top, place it in flowing water upstream from you.</li> <li>2. Keep it in the water for at least one minute.</li> <li>3. Either read the temperature immediately upon removal or read it underwater.</li> <li>4. Record the result on the data recording sheet.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Things to discuss:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ask the students what they think we are going to measure while holding up the thermometer.</li> <li>2. Ask why we need to know the temperature of the water? <i>For change. If the water gets too hot animals can't live in the water. A change of 2-3 C° can begin to affect the stream life.</i></li> <li>3. What do we measure temperature in? <i>Degrees Celsius.</i></li> <li>4. Hand the thermometer around the group and ask students to read the temperature.</li> <li>5. Check that students can read the scale on the thermometer accurately.</li> <li>6. Does the water temperature change during the day? How can we find out?</li> <li>7. Does the water temperature change during the year? How can we find out?</li> </ol>
	<p><b>Reflect</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What was the temperature in the stream?</li> <li>• Do you think the temperature might be affecting the ability of some of the animals to live in this stream?</li> <li>• If you were an animal living in this stream is there a shady spot for you to get out of the sun?</li> <li>• What might help to reduce the temperature of a stream?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action</b></p> <p>Would this stream benefit from the planting of trees to provide more shade?</p>

