



# STUDENT SHEET

## WHAT MATTERS WITH MISSING MUSSELS?

You are an organism in a river system.

- Step 1- You will take a card and be that organisms. Circle which one you drew: Plant, invertebrate, or mussel.
- Step 2- You will be put in “the stream” (stand next to container of candy.)
- Step 3- During this activity, you will close your eyes or you can be blindfolded.
- Step 4- If you are a mussel, you will get to use both hands to pick particles out of the water. If you are a plant or invertebrate, you only get to use one hand to pick up candies. Your teacher will tell you when to start. Wait for their instruction.
- Step 5- If you are mussel, you will unwrap a Starburst and then open your eyes. If it is yellow or pink you may eat it. If it is red or orange you will put in back into the stream for others to eat. If you are a plant or invertebrate you will grab one Starburst at time and try to unwrap it so you can eat it. If it you grab a Starburst without a wrapper, you may eat it. Don't forget to record what color you eat on your data sheet!
- Step 6- You may only eat three pieces of candy. Do not eat more than three.

### Answer the following questions

1. Does your stream have Mussels? Yes /No (circle one)
2. How many Red or Orange Starburst did you eat? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How Many Yellow or Pink starbursts did you eat? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Did you live? Yes/No (circle one)

**TAKE THE CHALLENGE TODAY!**  
[MNZOO.ORG/DIGITALMUSSELS](http://MNZOO.ORG/DIGITALMUSSELS)





Fill in the chart for the class.

Streams With Mussels			Streams Without		
# of Invertebrates and Plants			# of Invertebrates and Plants		
Group Number	Before	After	Group Number	Before	After

Which river had more species survive? Why do you think so?

Review- **Life History and conservation (slides 19-23)** in your notebook, write a summary paragraph using the following vocabulary: Bioremediation, Biomonitoring, Bioturbation.