Oak Tree

“...the light passing through an oak tree's leaves...”

Captures energy from the sun
Nesting place and perch for red-tailed hawks and other birds
Produces acorns

Brook Trout

“...a trout that has swum upstream to spawn...”

Lives in freshwater streams, lakes and rivers
Sensitive to pollution, warm temperatures and changes in pH
Eats aquatic insects, crustaceans, amphibians, smaller fish
Eaten by birds, larger fish, humans and other mammals
Spawn (lay eggs) in stream beds

Red-tailed Hawk

“...a red-tailed hawk is perched on a tree branch over the stream...”

Perches and nests in trees or on other tall structures like utility poles
Habitats also include grasslands, roadsides, and open country
Eats small mammals, birds, fish and reptiles, including snakes and frogs

Dragonfly Larva

“...looking for dragonfly larvae or other aquatic insects to eat...”

Aquatic insect that spends their larval stage in freshwater
Hides in rocks, muck and algae
Larvae eat worms, other aquatic insects, crayfish parts, small fish
Adult dragonflies eat mosquitoes and other flying insects
**Mosquito**

Larvae lives in water and eats *algae* and other organic material.

Adult females feed on the blood of mammals (including *humans* and *cats*), birds, reptiles, amphibians and even some fish and other insects.

Eaten by *dragonflies, fish, birds, bats, frogs, turtles, spiders*.

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**Human**

Acts as an ecosystem engineer: An organism that creates, significantly modifies, maintains or destroys habitat, thereby affecting the entire ecosystem.

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**Earthworm**

Breaks down organic material like fallen leaves and dead things (decomposer).

Worm poop enriches soil for *trees* and other plants.

Lives underground.

Eaten by *frogs, salamanders, fish, aquatic insect larvae, beetles*.

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**Allegheny Crayfish**

Lives in slow-moving freshwater.

Hides beneath rocks and burrow in substrate.

Eats *algae, aquatic insects, fish, decaying matter*.

Eaten by *large fish, raccoons, mink, great blue herons, humans*.
**Spotted Salamander**

“...large brownish-black salamander with yellow spots...”

Lives in forests under rocks, logs, or in burrows made by other animals

Comes out at night to feed, and in the spring to mate

Eats aquatic insects, worms, slugs, spiders

Eaten by snakes, turtles, raccoons

Sensitive to changes in water acidity

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**Northern Water Snake**

“...a water snake basking in the noontime sun...”

Nonvenomous

Hunts in freshwater streams

Eats fish, frogs, worms, leeches, crayfish, small birds and mammals, salamanders

Eaten by birds, snakes, raccoons, snapping turtles, other snakes

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**Green Frog**

Lives in freshwater streams, marshes, swamps, ponds, lakes and other aquatic environments

Eats insects (including mosquitoes), spiders, crayfish, tadpoles, small snakes, worms

Eaten by birds, snakes, raccoons, larger frogs, turtles, humans

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**Algae**

“...the algae-covered rocks of the stream bed...”

Captures energy from the sun

Food for crayfish, some aquatic insects and waterfowl