

MRWA JUNIOR RESEARCHERS

DIRECTIONS: Take your child for a walk along any part of the Muskegon River Watershed.

See if they can find and describe at least one animal/plant from each category listed below.

Of course, use caution and keep a safe distance when observing wild animals.

Name: _____

Age: _____

Phone Number: _____

Location of Research: _____



MALLARD DUCK



BIRDS: there are over 400 types of birds in Michigan - including 20 different kinds of ducks

What color(s) do you see?

What is the shape of its beak? (round, pointed, hooked)

Does it have webbed feet?

NORTHERN LEOPARD FROG



AMPHIBIANS: frogs, toads, & salamanders - typically found near water & no scales

What color(s) do you see?

Describe the sound you hear coming from the animal.

Does it have bumps on its skin?

FOX SQUIRREL



MAMMALS: in the trees, on land or in water - constantly found snacking on their favorite treats

What color(s) do you see?

What kind of food is it eating?

Does it have a long or short tail?

SMALLMOUTH BASS



FISH: they have an excellent sense of smell to detect prey and pollutants

What color(s) do you see?

Describe the habitat it was found in.

Does it have any markings on its body and/or head?

BROADLEAF CATTAIL



PLANTS: many native plants along the riverbank help prevent soil erosion

What color(s) do you see?

Is the plant tall or short?

Describe the shape of its leaves.

PAINTED TURTLE



REPTILES: snakes & turtles - these cold-blooded critters enjoy a day basking in the warm sun

What color(s) do you see?

How many legs does it have?

Does it have any markings on its body and/or head?

Parents, submit this worksheet to the Muskegon River Watershed Assembly by May 31st, 2022 for your child's chance to win a prize! Only (1) participant will win, and it will be announced on MRWA's Facebook Page on June 1st, 2022. The winner will be selected at random. You can mail this worksheet to: Muskegon River Watershed Assembly, @Ferris

State University, 1009 Campus Dr., JOH 305, Big Rapids, MI 49307. Or, send it via email to MRWA01@ferris.edu.