Pond Water Lab Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Lab Instructions

Pond water may appear to contain little to nothing at all, but when observed under the microscope,

it may reveal many things. Another world in miniature exists in pond water; if you are lucky, examples of protists may be viewed.

Strategy:

You will examine pond water under the microscope. You will identify the organisms that are

most common to different locations in this environment.

Materials: dropper, microscope, microscope slide & cover slip, and pond water

Procedure:

1. Use a dropper to place a drop of pond water from the surface of the jar on a clean microscope slide. Put a cover slip on the drop.

2. Examine the water under low and high power magnification of your microscope. Move the slide around so that all areas are observed. Draw what you see in the first circle.

3. Use the pictures of organisms on the back page to help you identify what you observe. If an organism is observed and identified, label it in the circle below.

4. Prepare another slide for microscope slide observation. Use a dropper to pick up some of the

debris and water from the bottom of the jar. Attempt to identify as many organisms as

possible. Move the slide so that all areas are observed. Draw what you see in the second circle.

Surface of the water Bottom of the jar

Protists Commonly Found in Pond Water



