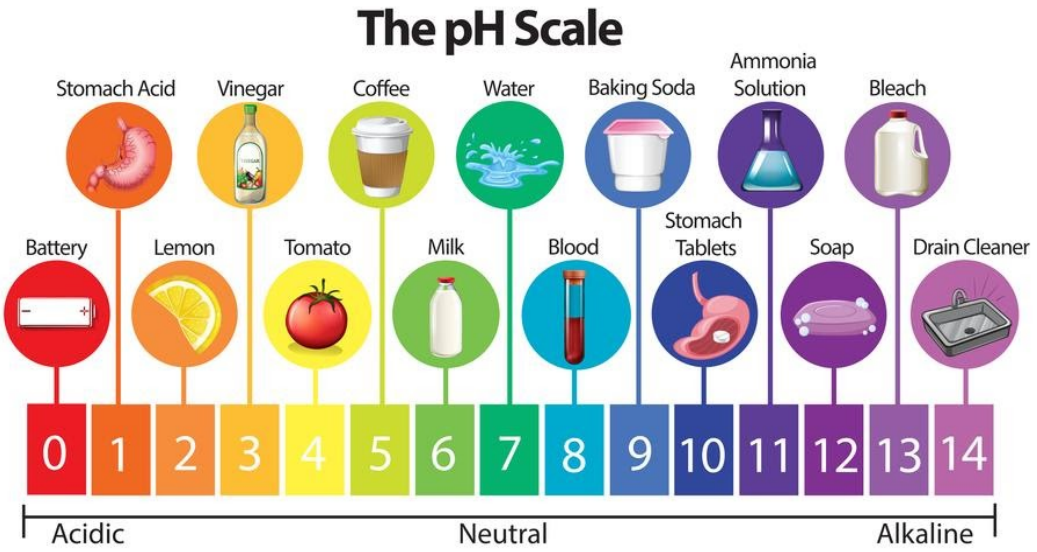
WATER QUALITY TESTING: PH

Grades 6-8 Hyatt Lake

Use this information sheet to help you learn more about **pH (parts hydrogen)**!

- pH is how acidic or alkaline/basic a substance is. You can think of pH as "parts Hydrogen," because it is the amount of Hydrogen ions in that substance.
- Everything has a pH!
- By measuring the pH of water, we can understand what animals can survive. Every animal can handle a different range of pH.



Sources of acidity or alkalinity

- Alkaline / Basic: Pollution (chemical, detergent/soap, litter/garbage)
- Acidic: Animal waste, downed trees and plant materials, acid rain

Drinking Water Standard: 7

Ideal for Freshwater Aquatic Life: 6.5-7.5