

# The Pond: Community Ecology in Action

## The Limnetic Zone

### | Suggested Responses

#### Comprehension Questions

1. a) Deeper open water
2. The upper region of the limnetic zone is called the **euphotic** zone, and the lower region is called the **profundal** zone.
3. Rooted plants are generally not found at the bottom of the limnetic zone because the light there is not strong enough to support primary production.
4. Surface tension allows some insects to “walk on water.”
5. Students’ responses will vary but could include crawling upside down across the surface of the water, riding on floating plants or algae, or swimming upside down.
6. **Algae** provide the food and oxygen upon which all other **organisms** in the limnetic zone depend.
7. False
8. a) 1
9. As a food chain becomes longer, less of the original energy is available to higher-order consumers.
10. b) It limits the length of food chains.

#### Surface Tension

Students’ responses will vary. However, students could give examples of surface tension such as insect locomotion on water, small eggs floating on water, water droplets on a windshield bonding together, water droplets in a spider’s web, and water forming on the outside of a tent or an umbrella. Examples of breaking surface tension could include adding soaps or detergents to water or heating water.

**Transcript** – For student and teacher use.