

Key Terms

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Acid a solution with a high concentration of hydrogen ions. On the pH scale, it has a value less than 7.

BOD biochemical oxygen demand. A measure of the amount of oxygen consumed by aquatic organisms in the decomposition of organic matter.

Acidity the quantitative capacity of water to be neutralized by a base to a set pH.

Acid Rain any form of wet precipitation that has a pH of less than 5.6. The term "acid rain" was coined by an English chemist, Robert Angus Smith, in 1852.

Algae simple rootless plants that grow in sunlight

in a water sample. Also known as biological oxygen demand.

Carbonate Rocks a carbonate is a rock comprised of greater than 50% carbonate (CO_3). They form through various chemical and biochemical processes, and comprise 10 to 20% of all sedimentary rocks.

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Eutrophication high growth of aquatic plant and animal life caused by an excessive supply of nutrients.

Evaporation the process of moisture being released into the atmosphere through sun heating surface water to a vapor that then rises into

Neutral solution the hydrogen ion concentration of pure water at room temperature is equal to the concentration of hydroxide ions. The measurement of either ion in this situation is 1.0×10^{-7} molar, or 7 using the pH scale. If the hydrogen ions are increased, the solution becomes

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