

CHAPTER 17	Launch Lab: Buffering Ground Water Answer Key	BLM 17.0.1A
ANSWER KEY		

Answers to Analysis Questions

1. You should plot your data using either a line graph or a bar chart (histogram). Line graphs are more widely used to show data in science, but you could argue that a histogram shows comparisons better.
2. The water samples least resistant to change in pH when acid rain was added should be the water that was in contact with granite or quartz. The most resistant water samples should be those in contact with the marble chips. If the ranking differs between groups, suggest possible reasons. The ranking of local water supplies will depend on the source of the water and how it was stored before the experiments.
3. Water left standing in contact with marble chips is likely to increase in pH, and the same will be true if the sample of local soil or rock contains carbonates. The water left standing in contact with granite or quartz is not likely to change pH much.