

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Two Rivers that Refuse to Mix***

**Directions:** As you read, complete the chart below comparing the two rivers in Brazil.

| <b>Property or characteristic</b> | <b>Rio Negro</b> | <b>Amazon</b> | <b>Reason for the difference<br/>(if stated in the article)</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|---------------|---|
| <b>Color</b>                      |                  |               |   |
| <b>Flow rate</b>                  |                  |               |   |
| <b>Temperature</b>                |                  |               |   |
| <b>pH</b>                         |                  |               |   |
| <b>Density</b>                    |                  |               |   |
| <b>Fish</b>                       |                  |               |   |
| <b>Animals along the banks</b>    |                  |               |   |

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### **POST READING QUESTIONS**

1. Why is the Rio Negro water dark?
2. What acid is produced by decaying organic matter along the Rio Negro?
3. Does the Rio Negro's pH of 3.5 make it acidic or basic?
4. Compare the acidity of water from the Rio Negro to water in
  - a. A healthy lake.
  - b. An acidic lake.
5. Name four ways the Rio Negro's chemistry affects plants, animals and people.
6. Name four differences between the two rivers that explain why their waters don't easily mix.
7. Besides reducing the variety and number of species of plants and animals living in the Rio Negro, what four other effects are produced by the decaying plant material?