

Dragonflies

Name: _____

Dragonfly Facts

- A dragonfly is an insect. They have an elongated body with two sets of transparent wings, three pairs of legs, and very large eyes.
- Some dragonflies can fly over 50 kph.
- They can fly like a helicopter, moving in all directions, forward, backward, up and down, as well as hovering.
- Dragonfly eyes contain up to 30 000 individual lenses. Human eyes only have one lens.
- There are fossilised records of dragonflies that are over 300 million years old.
- Dragonflies feed on insects like mosquitoes, gnats, midges and ants.
- Adult dragonflies live near water such as streams, lakes and ponds.

Do you know any more interesting facts about dragonflies?

Extension Research

Lifecycle of a dragonfly.

Dragonflies have three stages in their life cycle:

egg - larva (nymph) - adult.

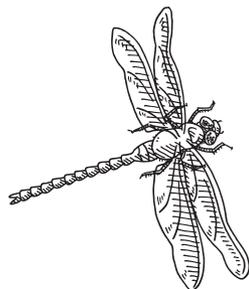
The larvae live in streams, lakes and ponds among plants and rocks. Most of their life is spent in the larval nymph stage underneath the water surface.

On a large sheet of paper, illustrate and write about the lifecycle of a dragonfly.

Parts of a Dragonfly

Draw a diagram of a dragonfly and label:

-wings (forewings and hindwings), abdomen, head, thorax and legs.



Plurals

To make a plural for nouns ending in 'y', and the letter before the 'y' is a consonant, change the 'y' to 'i' then add 'es'.

For example: dragonfly - dragonflies

If there is a vowel before the 'y', just add 's'.

For example: toy -toys

Write the correct plural for the following nouns:

butterfly	canary	turkey
boy	pulley	lady
pony	valley	city

Number Crunchers

From the time a dragonfly egg hatches, it can live anywhere from six months to six years, but only about two months as an actual dragonfly.

If a dragonfly lived for 5 years. How many months is that?

A dragonfly after it hatched, only spent 2 months out of 5 years as an actual dragonfly. Which fraction represents this?

$\frac{2}{5}$ $\frac{5}{60}$ $\frac{2}{12}$ $\frac{6}{60}$ $\frac{2}{60}$

If a dragonfly flaps its wings at 30 beats per second, how many beats does it flap:

- in 10 seconds?

- in 20 seconds?

- in 1 minute?

