

Classification

Dragonfly

Kingdom:	Animalia
Phylum:	Arthropoda
Class:	Hexapoda
Order:	Odonata
Common Names:	Dragonfly

Body

Body Parts:	3, head, thorax & abdomen
Legs:	6, attached to the thorax
Wings:	4, attached to the thorax. In rest, dragonflies hold their wings horizontally to either side of the body. Damselflies fold their wings when resting.
Eyes:	Two very large compound eyes perfectly suited for the pursuit of flying food insects and mates.
Mouthparts:	Tearing, crushing set of mouthparts.



Life History

Habitat:	Dragonflies are found near creeks, ponds, lakes and rivers.
Life Cycle:	Dragonflies either drop their eggs into water or they lay them onto water plants. The eggs hatch and the young (nymphs) catch live animals for food. When they are large enough the nymphs leave the water and shed their skin one more time to become an adult flying insect.
Diet:	Adult Dragonflies are skilled predators and hunters of other flying insects.

