

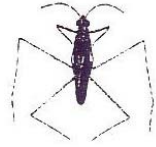
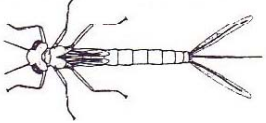







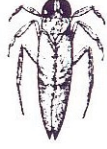
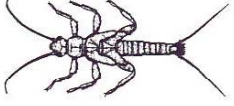







# FRESHWATER MACROINVERTEBRATES

Without realizing it, you have probably seen a macroinvertebrate before. They are often called bugs or insects. For a better understanding, it helps to breakdown the word: “macro” is something that is small, but can be seen with the naked eye, and an “invertebrate” is an organism that does not have a backbone. Bugs and insects are important aspects to an environment. They provide a food source for many different organisms, such as fish. Use the identification key to find out what freshwater organism you have found!



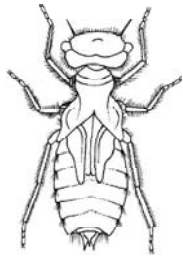
	Water Beetle Larvae		Clam		Water Strider
	Damselfly Nymph		Snail		Water Beetle
	Dragonfly Nymph		Crayfish		Water Boatman
	Mayfly Nymph		Isopod		Backswimmer
	Stonefly Nymph		Scud		Water Mite
	Caddisfly Nymph		Midge, Mosquito and Fly Larvae		Worms and Leeches

# NYMPHS, LARVAE, AND LIFE CYCLES

Insects or macroinvertebrates go through different stages during their life. Referred to as a life cycle, nymphs and larvae are one stage of the cycle, the baby stage. Sometimes the nymphs or larvae can look exactly like the adult or in other cases, the baby can look completely different. Check out some nymphs and larvae that look nothing like their parents!

## *DRAGONFLY*

Nymph



Adult



## *MOSQUITO*

Nymph



Adult



## *MAYFLY*

Nymph



Adult



## *STONEFLY*

Nymph



Adult

