



Dragonflies are in the order Odonata - toothed one



Some fossilized dragonflies had a wing-span of 30 inches



They have 2 sets of wings that work independently



3,000+ species worldwide



Dragonflies are expert fliers and always hunt on the wing



They can live up to their first 2 years of life underwater as a nymph



316 species in N. America



They catch insect prey with their feet



As nymphs they are also carnivores



Dragonflies live on every continent except Antarctica



Their heads are almost all eyes, so they have great vision



Nymphs crawl out of the water to become adults



Dragonflies existed on Earth 325 million years ago



Some migrate - the longest recorded migration is 11,000 miles



Adults are excellent for mosquito control

More information and activities

Facts about dragonflies

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/invertebrates/d/dragonflies-insects/>

Dragonfly or Damselfly?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j-gQ49wPui4>

Some fantastic videos about dragonflies

[The Secret World of Dragonflies](#)

[Conquest of the Skies](#)

[Sky Hunters, The World of the Dragonfly - The Secrets of Nature](#)

Online Field Guides

http://www.odesforbeginners.com/family_guide/dragon-families.aspx

<https://agrillife.org/dragonfly/>

Citizen Science Opportunities

[Odonata Central](#)

[Migratory Dragonfly Partnership](#)

Dragonfly Crafts

<https://www.dltk-kids.com/crafts/insects/crafts-dragonfly.htm>

Dragonfly Books

<https://tinyurl.com/ybcwezfq>



The best place to look for dragonflies at all stages of their life cycle is around water. If you have access to a pond, lake or stream you can look for dragonflies in or above the water. Dragonflies are an indicator species, this means their presence or absence means the habitat is healthy or not. Take along a dip net, containers and a magnifying glass. Always be very careful around water - always have adult supervision.

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adult dragonfly



dragonflies mating



dragonfly emerges

Life Cycle of a dragonfly



nymph lives in water



dragonfly laying eggs

What you found - observe & report