



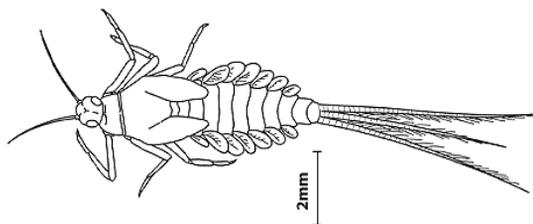
Pond creature factsheet (DM4)

Mayfly nymph

Trophic level: Herbivore – primary consumer.

Moving: It moves swiftly in an undulating movement.

Breathing: It breathes via 7 pairs of gills down the side of its abdomen which are rippled to increase oxygen intake.

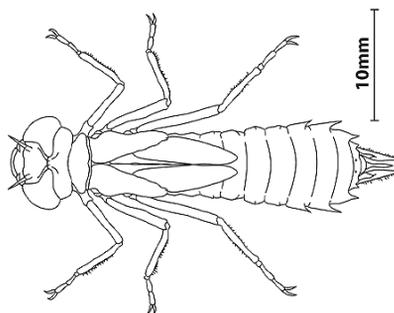


Dragonfly nymph

Trophic level: Carnivore – tertiary consumer. Prey is caught using a 'mask' - a specialised hinged mouthpart which enables the nymph to grab its prey (the aliens in the film 'Alien' were designed from this).

Moving: walks or jet rectal glide. Nymphs breathe by sucking in water into their rectal passage and over the internal gills, by expelling the water from the rectum quickly they can move quickly through the water.

Breathing: internal gills in rectum.





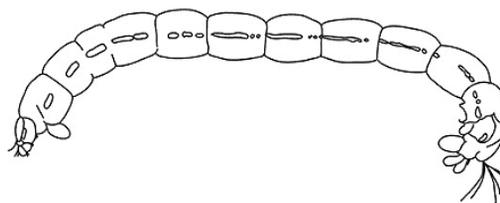
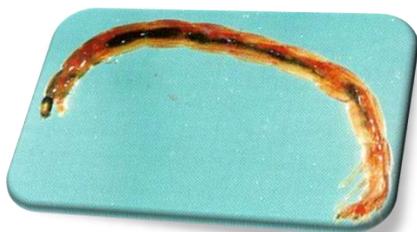
Pond creature factsheet (DM4)

Non biting midge larvae

Trophic level: Detritivore

Breathing: Diffusion through skin surface. Some species have haemoglobin.

Moving: Curling and uncurling its body.



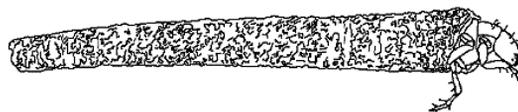
Cased caddisfly larvae

Feeding: Herbivore & Carnivore – primary or secondary consumer.

Breathing: External gills housed within its case.

Moving: Crawling or paddling front legs.

Case building varieties construct their houses from organic material such as shells, wood, sand etc which they glue together with 'silk'. Free living varieties spin nets or tubes in which they ensnare their food. Larvae have hooks on abdominal segments which they use to hold themselves in their home.





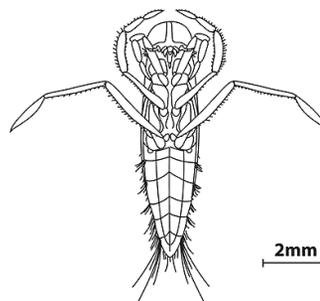
Pond creature factsheet (DM4)

Greater water boatman

Feeding: Carnivore – tertiary consumer.

Breathing: carries an air bubble. The oxygen bubble under its wing cases giving it a reflective appearance from below when swimming. This reflection acts as a form of camouflage protecting the boatman from predation by fish.

Moving: highly adapted pair of swimming legs that are much longer than other two pairs.



Ramshorn snail

Feeding: Detritivore & Herbivore – primary consumer. Snails have rows of very fine teeth (known as a radula) which they use to scrape away food

Breathing: surface air with simple lung.

Moving: sends ripples through its large muscular foot.

