

Lesson 6: Odonata I

Order Facts

- Odonata [Greek: οδοντος] means “toothed”
- Dragonflies and Damselflies
- Incomplete metamorphosis
- Characteristics: water nymphs and needle-like abdomen

Reading and Questions

*Insects
Reader
pp. 21-26*

1. Why are dragonflies not easy to catch? They are swift and shy.
 2. What other insects are “cousins” of the dragonfly? They are termites, may-flies, and lace-wing flies.
 3. Describe the dragonfly’s wings. They are large, fine, lace-like wings, divided into spaces. They are equal in size.
 4. Describe the dragonfly’s body, or abdomen. It is long and thin.
 5. Where may dragonflies be found? They live in wet places like lakes, ponds, marshy places, or quiet streams.
 6. What does the mother dragonfly do with her eggs? She drops her eggs on the water, or she may put them into plant stems.
 7. What is the dragonfly nymph’s way of catching food like? It is like a person with a net catching insects.
 8. How is a dragonfly nymph like a steamboat? It moves forward by shooting water behind it.
 9. What happens to the dragonfly as time gets nearer for it to come out of the water as an adult?
Its case grows clearer, its eyes brighter, and it leaves the deeper part of the water and gets near the edge.
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