

Dragonfly Facts and Life Cycle



What Do Dragonflies look like?



There are more than 5000 species of dragonfly in the world and they come in many different colours and sizes. They have two pairs of wings and large eyes which are made up of lots of different lenses. Dragonflies have six legs but are not very good at walking.

What Do Dragonflies Eat?



Adult dragonflies eat flying insects, such as midges and mosquitoes. They may also eat flies, moths, butterflies, bees and other smaller dragonflies. Dragonfly larvae eat creatures living in the water, such as worms, mosquito larvae, tadpoles and even small fish.

Where Do Dragonflies Live?



Dragonflies can be found on every continent except Antarctica. They live near water, such as ponds, lakes, rivers, streams and marshes.

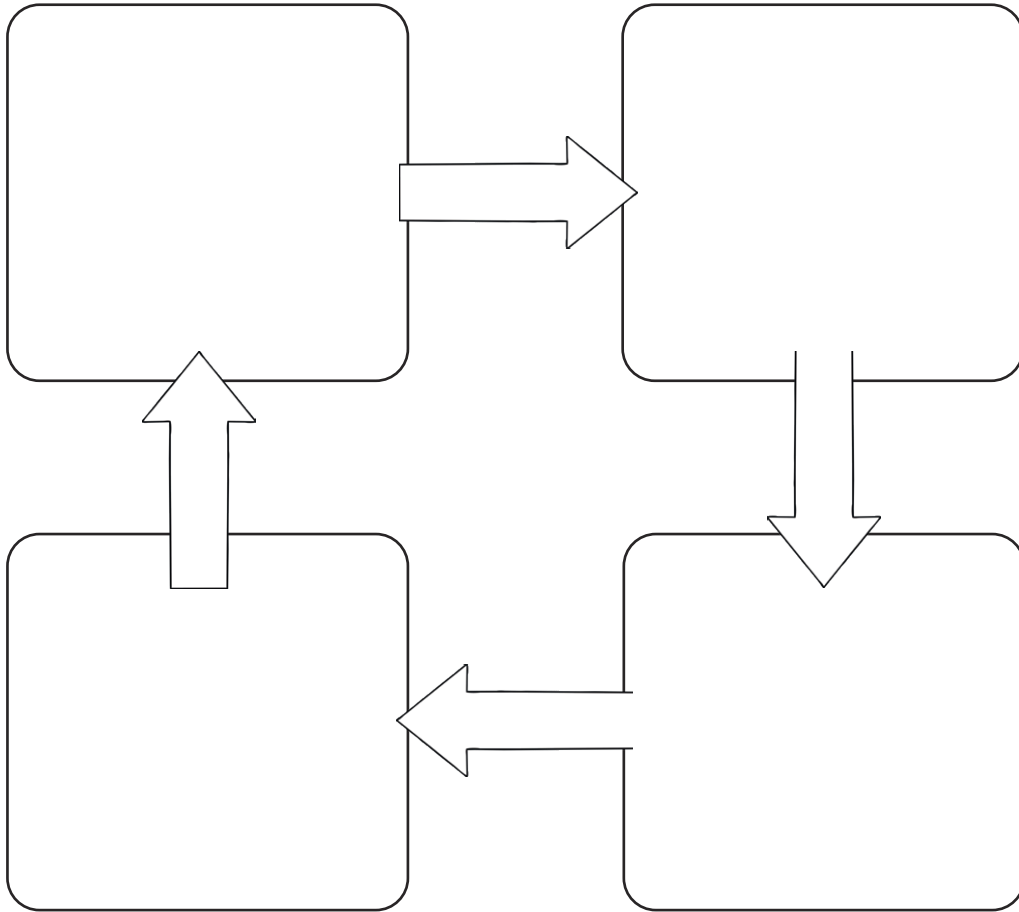
What Does a Dragonfly's Life Cycle Look Like?

Dragonflies lay their eggs in water (or on plants near water). The eggs hatch into larvae, also known as nymph, which spend most of their time in the water. The larvae shed their skins many times as they grow. Eventually, they climb out of the water and shed their skin one last time (the final moult) and come out as an adult dragonfly.

Fascinating Facts

- Dragonflies have been around for over 300 million years. They used to be much larger, with some having a wingspan of over 70cm.
- They are very good at flying. They can fly up to 35mph and can even fly backwards!
- A group of dragonflies is called a swarm.
- Their predators include birds, spiders and frogs.

Cut and paste the life cycle of a dragonfly into the correct order.



Write a few sentences to describe the dragonfly life cycle

