

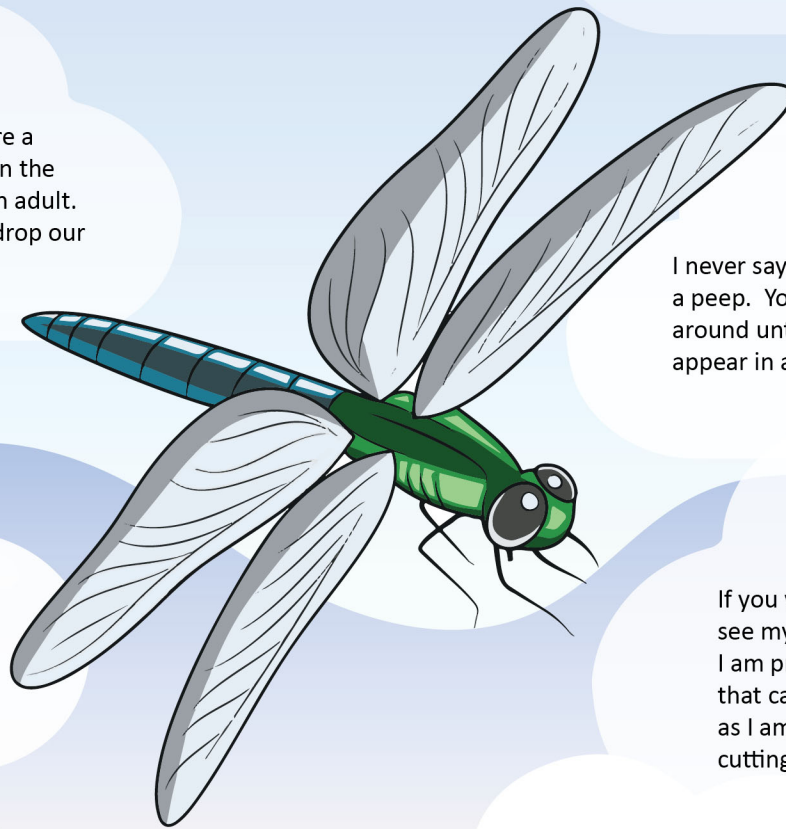
FOCUS ON DRAGONFLIES

I'm born in the bottom of a pond, surrounded by underwater plants and muck. I start as an egg and change into a larvae and then a nymph. Nymphs are underwater predators of aquatic worms, other nymphs, tadpoles and even fish. As I grow, I crawl out of the water and then metamorphose into an adult.

I have been called an ogre because of my huge mouth and big eyes. My favourite is when humans call me a "mosquito-hawk." If you are alive and the perfect size, you could be prey!

Members of my family share a double life as we are born in the water and live on land as an adult. We return to the water to drop our eggs for a new generation.

I never say a word and I never make a peep. You may not know I am around until you see me suddenly appear in a split-second instant.



I can stand, climb, and perch but I never walk. My amazing sight and super-fast speed are my special skills.

If you watch a horror movie, you might see my body shape and special features. I am proud of my incredible lower jaw that can shoot out to grab prey as large as I am. I devour them using my sharp cutting teeth. I am a hungry carnivore.

When I form into the adult, I have full strength armor to help protect me. This comes in many colours like gold, bronze, brilliant blues, iridescent greens, and hot-fire reds.

I have excellent vision and can see movement from far away. If you find me stuck in a spider web and want to help me, please be gentle as my legs will fall off easily if you touch them.