

## Pond dipping instructions

The best time of year is between May and August

### Equipment

Pond tray/bucket    net    jamjar    magnifying glass identification sheet

### Instructions

- Fill bucket or tray with pond water
- Dip net into pond moving in a figure of 8
- Empty from net into bucket/tray by turning the net inside out into the water in the bucket
- For closer inspection you could use a jam jar to scoop up bigger creatures from bucket such as tadpoles. A magnifying glass can help you see very tiny creatures.
- Identify pond minibeasts.
- After you have finished empty all creatures back into the pond.

### Teacher Bit

***Adult supervision required for younger children. Get children to kneel down or even on their bellies when pond dipping if they are very young, as it will reduce the chances of falling in.***

***Don't drink pond water.***

***If the pond is very overgrown and a bit smelly avoid using it. A stagnant pond will not contain much to see as it will lack oxygen.***

***Have an awareness of Weil's disease from water contaminated with rats wee.***

***Children must wash hands after pond dipping with soap and water. If they have any cuts or sores then it would be advisable to wear gloves.***

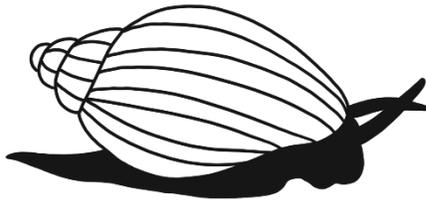
***If pond dipping in different ponds then wash the equipment in between so you do not cross contaminate between areas.***

# Pond Minibeasts

If you take a close look at a pond, you will discover that there is a whole zoo of pond minibeasts living there.

## Pond Minibeast With No Legs

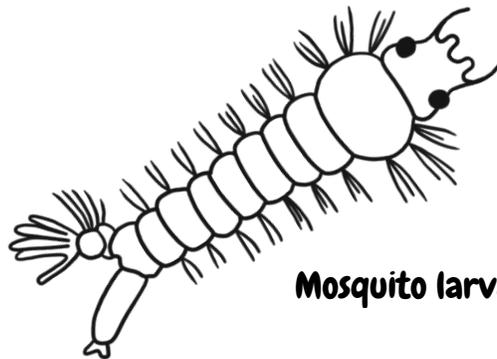
Leech



Tadpole

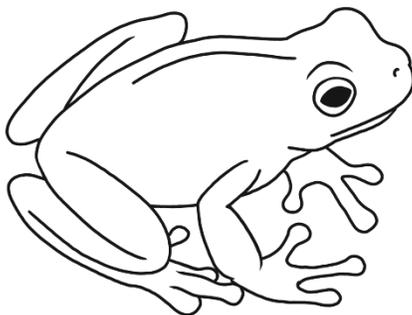


Snail

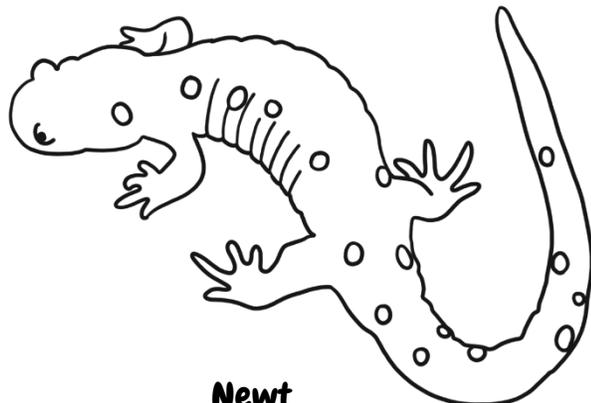


Mosquito larva

## Pond Minibeast with 4 Legs

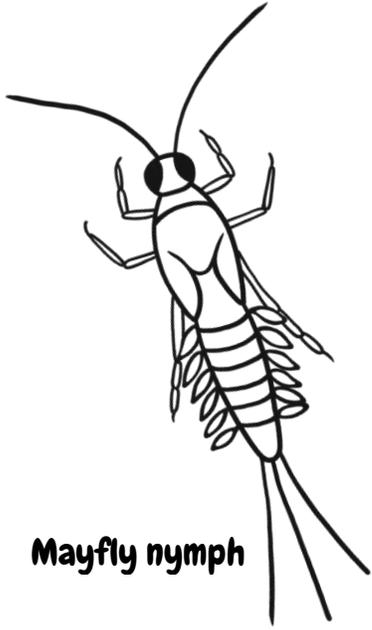


Frog

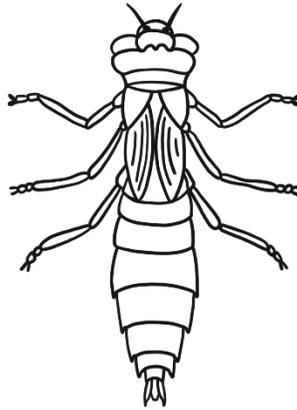


Newt

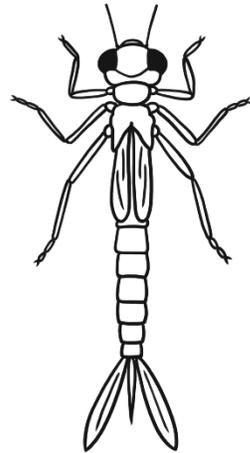
# Pond Minibeasts with 6 Legs



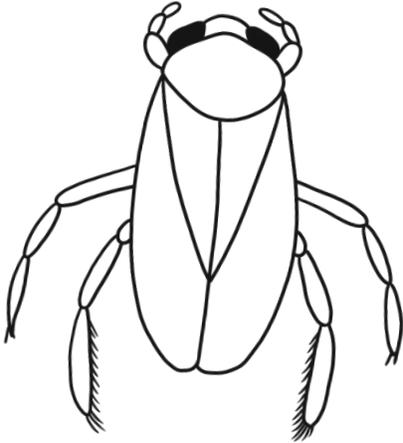
**Mayfly nymph**



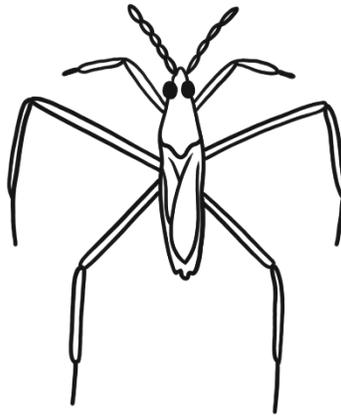
**Dragonfly nymph**



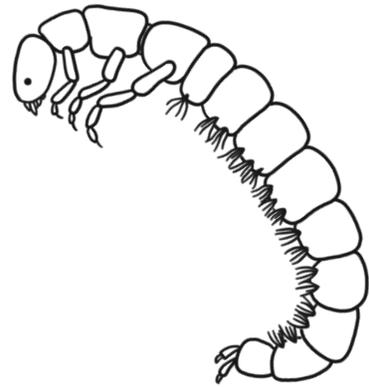
**Damselfly nymph**



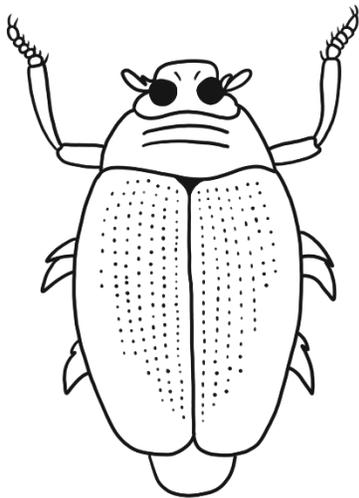
**Water boatman**



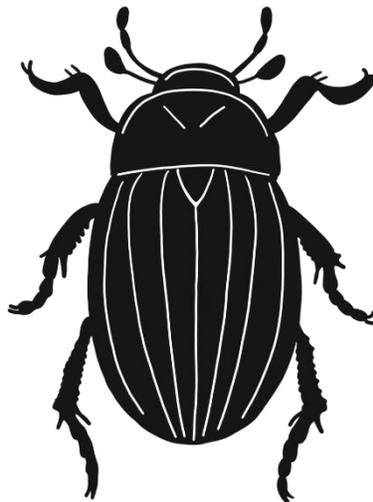
**Water skater**



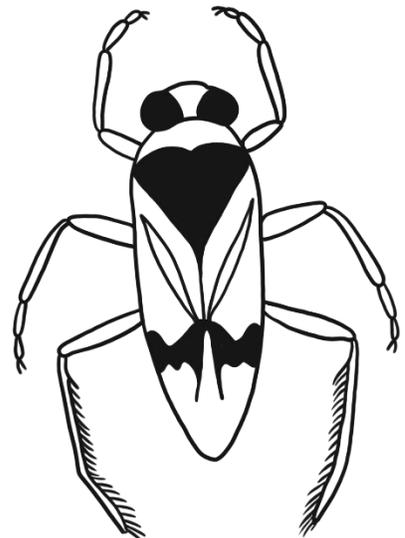
**Caddis fly larva**



**Whirligig beetle**

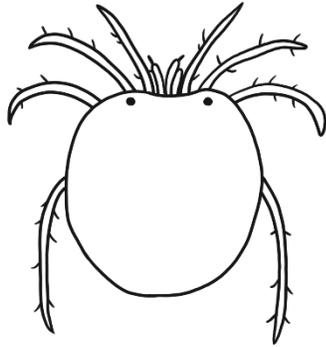


**Water beetle**

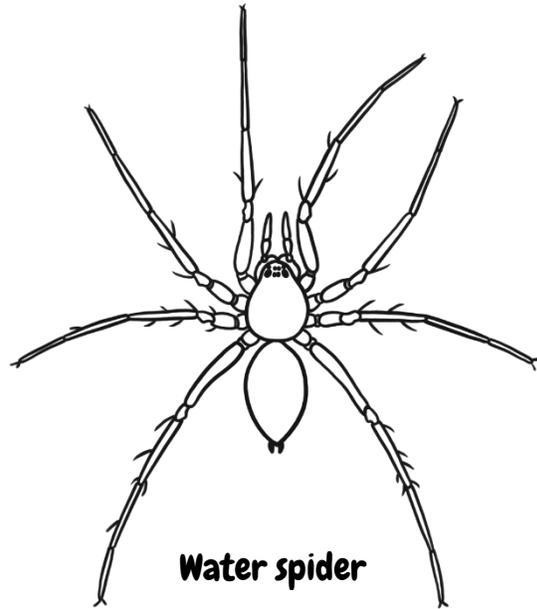


**Backswimmer**

## Pond Minibeasts with 8 Legs

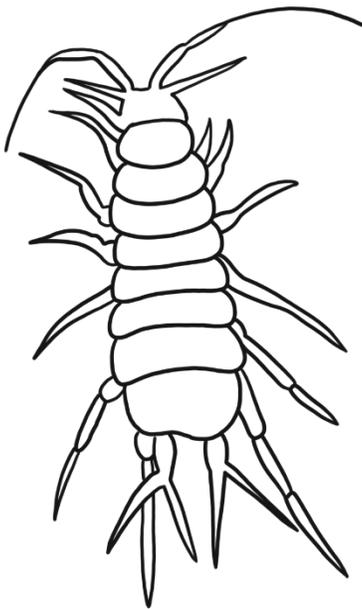


**Water mite**

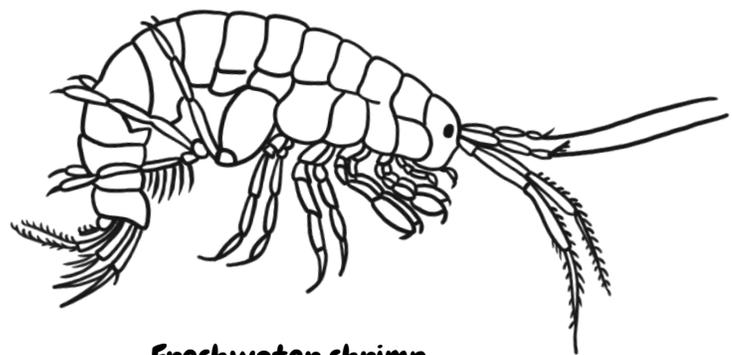


**Water spider**

## Pond Minibeasts with Lots of Legs



**Water louse**



**Freshwater shrimp**