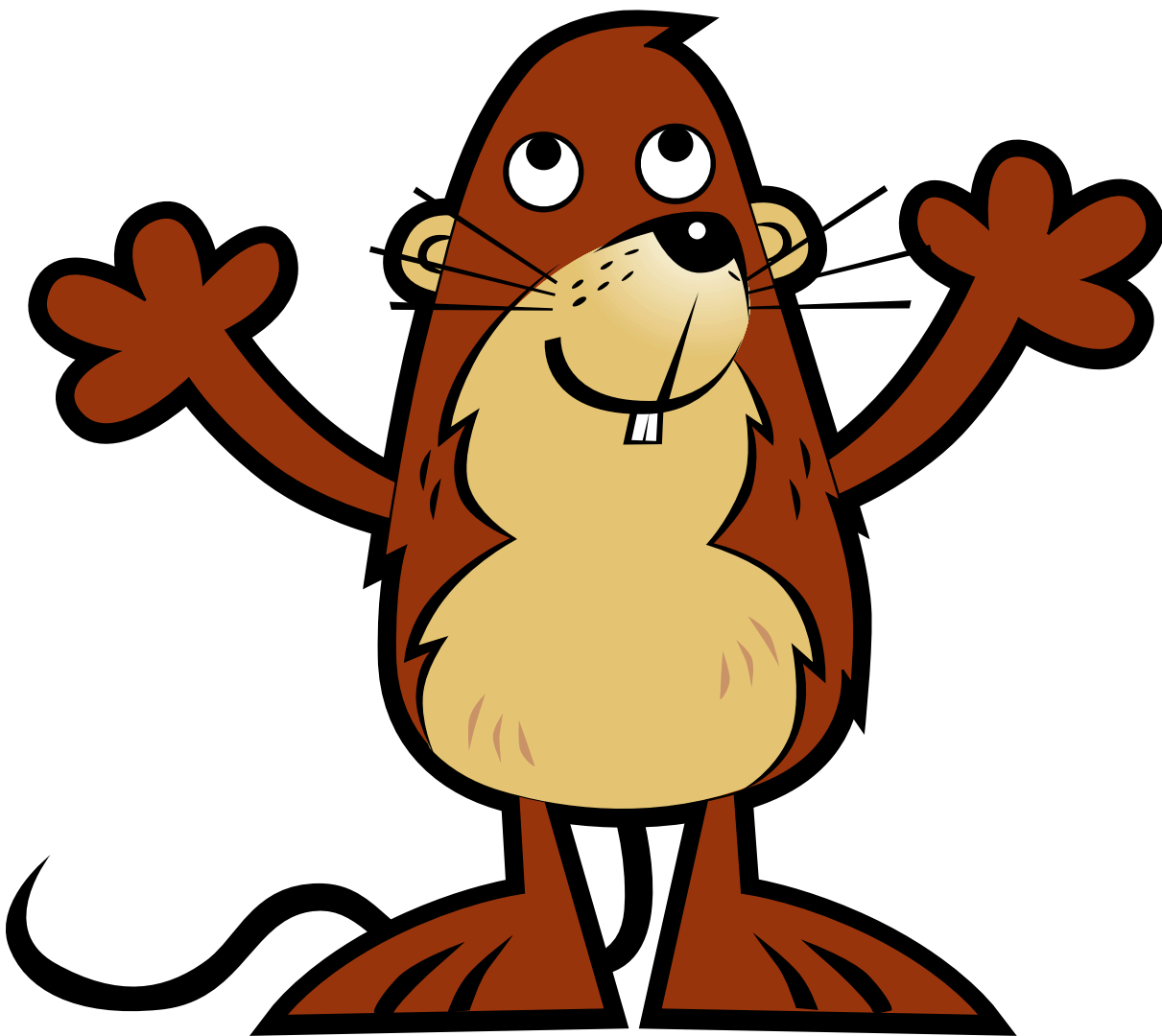


Can you identify all
the bugs and minibeasts
living in a waterway
environment?



Pond dipping is great fun - but it should only be done in a safe location and with an adult supervising the activity.

You will need

- a hand net - to dip into the water and 'catch' the minibeasts.
- a shallow tray containing 3 or 4 cm of water - to empty your 'catch' into so you can examine and identify the minibeasts before returning them to their natural environment.
- a hand-held lens or 'bug boxes' - to examine the minibeasts.



Are you ready to get dipping?

Instructions

- Ask an adult to cover the bottom of the shallow tray with 3 or 4 cm of water.
- Slowly dip your hand net into the water. Don't make any wild movements that might disturb the wildlife.
- Tip the contents carefully into the tray.

Identifying and recording

- Look at the minibeasts in your shallow tray carefully using the hand-held lens and identify them by using the key on Source sheet B or D.
- Record the results of your investigation on Source sheet C or D.
- Try sketching some of the minibeasts on the Recording sheet.
- Do **not** handle the minibeasts and do **not** put your fingers in the water!
- When you have identified the minibeasts, ask an adult to return them to the water by gently submerging the tray and allowing them to escape.

Remember to stay **SAFE** near water - **Stay Away From the Edge** !

Use the table to record the number of creatures you have found.
Record each creature with a / in the Tally box. Add the totals at the end.

Creature	Sketch	Tally	Total number	Creature	Sketch	Tally	Total number
Whirligig beetle		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Pond skater		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Dragonfly nymph		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Water boatman		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Great diving beetle		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Water spider		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Mayfly nymph		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Damselfly nymph		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Water scorpion		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Freshwater shrimp		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Rams horn snail		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Water louse		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Leach		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Flatworm		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Great pond snail		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Water mite		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>


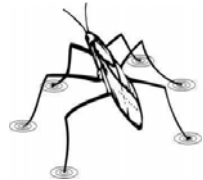



Others: (list)

.....

You may also find tadpoles, frogs, toads, newts and small fish e.g. sticklebacks.

Pond Dipping - Identification and Recording sheet

Use the table to record the number of creatures you have found.
 Record each creature with a **x** in the Tally box.
 Add up the totals at the end.

Creature	Tally	Total number
Whirligig beetle 	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Pond skater 	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Water boatman 	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Great diving beetle 	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Water scorpion 	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Tadpole (draw)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Frog (draw)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Toad (draw)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Others: (draw or name)

You may also find small fish e.g. sticklebacks.