



ESSEX
Wildlife Trust

Dragonfly



GlaxoSmithKline

Invertebrates ~ Dragons and Damsels



Adult Dragonflies move like helicopters in the sky and as young hunt like Great White Sharks in water



They can fly as fast as a car (35mph) can hover, fly backwards, lift double their weight, take off backwards and even somersault. What's more a dragonfly's huge eyes means that it can see all the way round without moving its head.

They do not bite or sting but catch and eat insects while flying. They can eat up to 300 mosquitoes in a day, one very good reason for helping them!



Dragonflies lay their eggs in water, the young live in the water for up to five years. They are fierce hunters with a jaw which shoots forward to catch their prey.

HOW DO YOU TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DRAGONS AND DAMSELS?

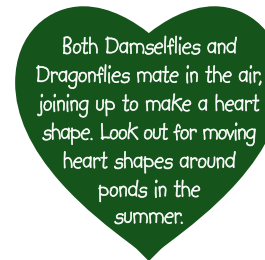
Damselflies are smaller and look like flying sticks. When they stop they fold their wings behind them.

Dragonflies are much bigger – it's a bit like comparing football players with rugby players. When they land they spread their wings out to the sides.



YOU CAN HELP DRAGONFLIES— they can live in your garden

The best way to encourage them is to have a pond in your garden. It can be large or small but it must have water in it all year round as their young (Dragonfly Nymphs) will live in it for up to five years. Look on our website for details of how to build a wildlife pond.



Come out and go wild with Essex Wildlife Trust



You can join us on a mini beast hunt, come crabbing or pond dipping, or create amazing pieces of art. Contact your nearest EWT visitor centre for activities in your area.

Abberton nr Colchester 01206 738172
Bedfords Park nr Romford 01708 748646
Chafford Gorges nr Thurrock 01375 484016
Fingringhoe nr Colchester 01206 729678

Hanningfield nr Chelmsford 01268 711001
Langdon nr Basildon 01268 419103
Thorndon nr Brentwood 01277232944
General enquiries 01621 862991

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Registered Charity No. 210065



ESSEX
Wildlife Trust

Visit us at
www.essexwt.org.uk



We are celebrating our 50th birthday and you can join in the fun. Send us a list of 50 different types of wildlife you can find in your garden along with your name, age and address and we will send you a prize.

