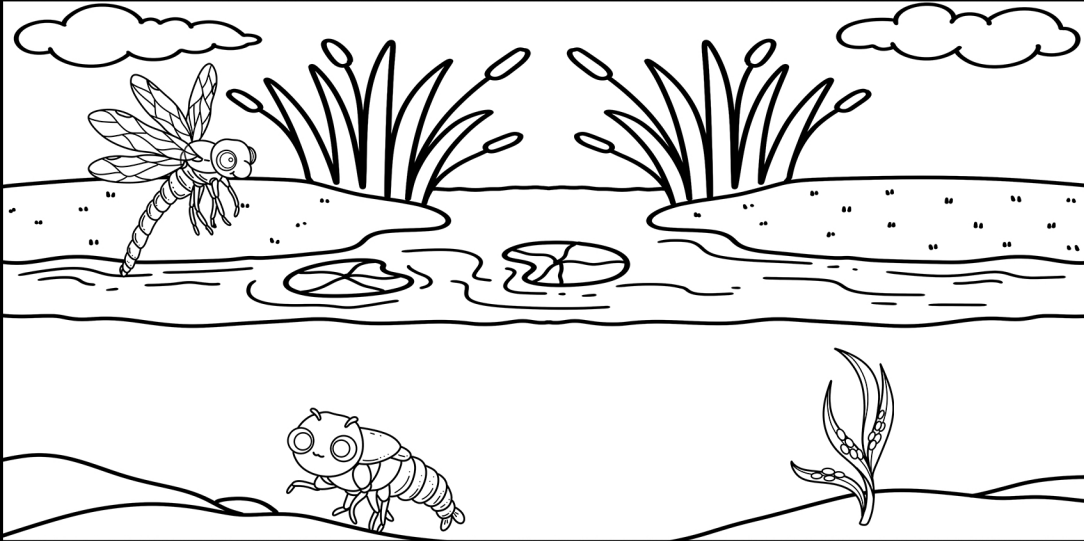


**Word Bank:**

pond

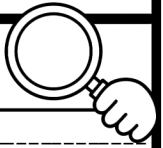
gills

habitat

camouflage

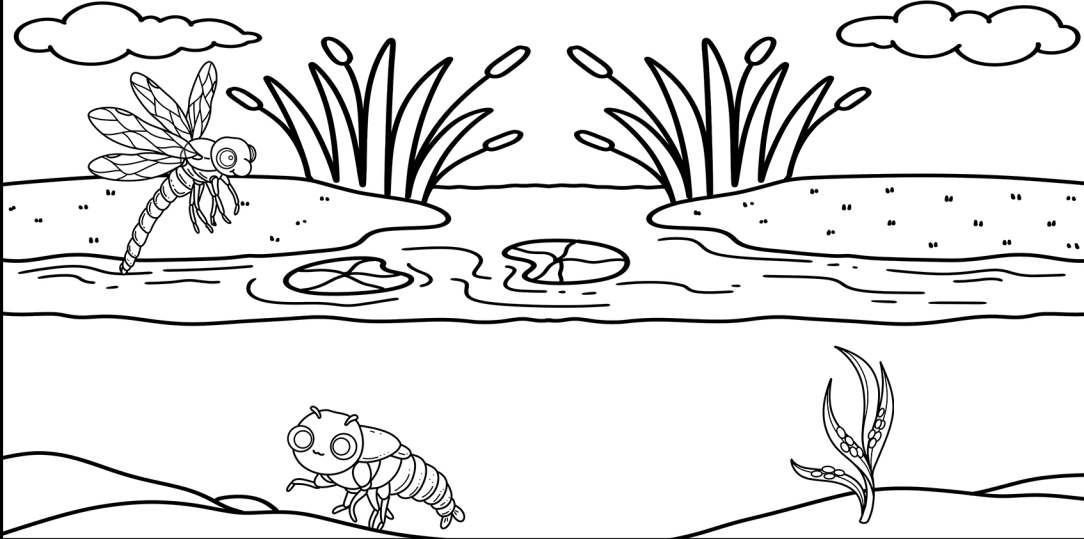
A dragonfly does not always live in the air. Before it grows wings, a dragonfly begins life as a nymph living underwater in a pond. This underwater world is the nymph's habitat, the natural place where it finds everything it needs to survive. Instead of lungs, a nymph has gills. Gills let the nymph breathe while it stays beneath the surface of the water. Many nymphs are brown or green, which works like camouflage, helping them blend in with rocks, mud, and plants at the bottom of the pond. A nymph can live underwater for months or even years before it is ready to change. When the time comes, it climbs out of the pond and molts one last time, leaving the water behind to become a flying adult dragonfly.

1. What does a nymph use to breathe underwater?



2. Why is camouflage helpful for a nymph?

3. What happens when a nymph is ready to become an adult?



Word Bank:

pond

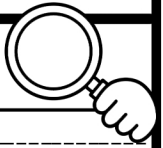
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1. What does a nymph use to breathe underwater?



Gills

2. Why is camouflage helpful for a nymph?

It helps the nymph blend in with rocks, mud, and plants so predators and prey don't notice it.

3. What happens when a nymph is ready to become an adult?

It climbs out of the pond and molts one last time to become a flying adult dragonfly.