

Pond Life Key



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1. Has it a shell?	Yes	Go to 2
	No	Go to 4
2. Is the shell coiled?	Yes	Go to 3
	No	Pea Mussel
3. Is the coiled shell flat or pointed?	Flat	Ramshorn Snail
	Pointed	Pond Snail
4. Has it legs?	Yes	Go to 11
	No	Go to 5
5. Is the body in different sections?	Yes	Go to 7
	No	Go to 6
6. Has it got fins?	Yes	Fish
	No	Flatworm
7. Has it got antennae?	Yes	Go to 9
	No	Go to 8
8. Has it got suckers?	Yes	Leech
	No	Freshwater Worm
9. Has it got 2 breathing tubes on its back?	Yes	Mosquito Pupa
	No	Go to 10
10. Is the body transparent?	Yes	Midge Larva
	No (Red)	Bloodworm
11. How many legs has it got?	4	Go to 12
	6	Go to 14
	8	Go to 25
	more than 8	Go to 26
12. Has it got a tail?	Yes	Newt
	No	Go to 13
13. Look at its skin.	Smooth	Frog
	Warty	Toad
14. Can you see antennae?	Yes	Go to 16
	No	Go to 15
15. Which way up does the animal swim?	On back	Greater Water Boatman
	On front	Lesser Water Boatman

16. Has it got tail projections?	Yes	Go to 17
	No	Go to 20
17. How many tail projections has it got?	1	Go to 18
	2	Beetle Larva
	3	Go to 19
18. Has it got a pair of pincers?	Yes	Water Scorpion
	No	Alder Fly Larva
19. Does it have gills on its body?	Yes	Mayfly Nymph
	No	Go to 22
20. Does it live in a tube?	Yes	Caddisfly Nymph
	No	Go to 21
21. What shape are the antennae?	Thread like	Great Diving Beetle
	Club like	Whirligig Beetle
	Thin and as long as the 1st pair of legs	Go to 23
22. Does it have long and flat or short and stumpy tail projections?	Long flat	Damselfly Nymph
	Short stumpy	Dragonfly Nymph
23. Is the head very long and thin?	Yes	Water Measurer
	No	Go to 24
24. Look at pairs of legs 1&2 1 is nearest the head. Are they widely seperated?	Yes	Pond Skater
	No	Water Cricket
25. Has it got 1 body part or 2?	1	Water Mite
	2	Water Spider
26. Is the body flattened from side to side or top to bottom?	Side to side	Freshwater Shrimp
	Top to bottom	Water Slater