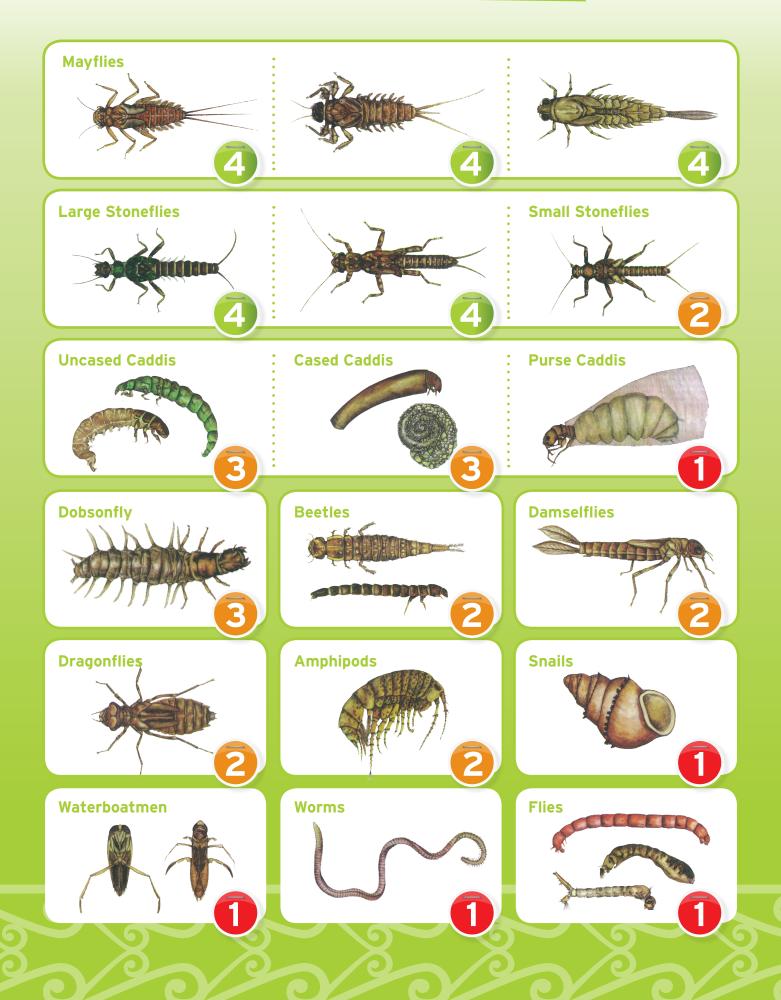
Stream Life







ID Tips - Finding Different Species

Look carefully at the animals in your sample to find different species. Many of the animals you find will be much smaller than shown in the pictures. They will also be smaller in spring.

Mayflies

Mayfly larvae have 3 tails. Mayfly larvae have gills on their abdomen. They thrash their bodies around when you catch them to try to breathe better!

Stoneflies

Stonefly larvae have 2 tails. Stonefly larvae's gills are hard to see. They raise their bodies up and down to pass water over their gills in still water

Large Stoneflies grow up to 30mm and indicate high water quality. Stenoperla - green stonefly. Zealandoperla - very long antennae and hairy legs, flattened body.

Small Stoneflies typical size 6 - 10mm.

Acroperla sp. - pale markings on legs and body, tail filaments shorter than antennae legs not hairy, rounded body. Zealandobius - pale body, tail filaments shorter than antennae, tuft between tail filaments.

Caddisflies

Caddisflies have legs at the front of their bodies. Free living caddis have a hook at the end of their bodies. The 'purse' caddis typical size is 3mm. The case is transparent. You may find many different types. There are over 160 different species of caddis.

Beetle or free living caddis?

Beetle larvae have thinner bodies with less rounded 'segments'.

Amphipods

Not insects but crustaceans, count the legs! Typical size 3.5mm, the same family as Koura.

Snails

Typical size 3 - 12mm

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