



FOR YOUR WORLD



DRAGONFLY LIFE-CYCLE MODEL



45 mins



6-12 yr olds



indoor fun

This Easter, celebrate the cycles of rebirth in nature. From the eggs, to the larva to the beautiful adult with glistening wings, create a beautiful model of the life cycle of a dragonfly using recycled materials and crafty techniques.

What you'll need

- Recycled egg box
- Tissue paper
- Coloured paper or colourful pictures from magazines
- Recycled bubble wrap
- Rice or lentils (uncooked)
- Some yarn
- Felt tip pens or crayons
- Scissors
- Eco-friendly glue



Instructions

The habitat:

1. Start by drawing, collaging or painting the inside of the egg box lid with a backdrop. Think about the type of habitat a dragonfly lives in. Dragonflies live in wetland habitats. What types of plants do you think grow there?
2. Lightly scrunch a piece of blue tissue paper and place it in the base of the egg box. Wrap it gently around the cones and shapes of the box and glue it in place.
3. Draw plants and flowers or cut them out from magazines and glue them around the edges of the base of the egg box.
4. You could add a few small pebbles for decoration.

Your dragonfly habitat is complete! Turn over to find out to make the eggs, larva and the dragonfly.



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The eggs

1. Draw and cut out the shape of a leaf where the dragon fly is going to lay her eggs.
2. Fold the leaf lengthwise and draw some veins to decorate.
3. Glue around 20 grains of uncooked rice or lentils onto the leaf.
4. Alternatively, carefully cut a 10p size round piece of recycled bubble wrap and glue that onto the leaf.
5. Attach the leaf with 'eggs' onto one of the corners of the egg box.

**FEMALE
DRAGONFLIES CAN LAY
HUNDREDS OF EGGS
DURING THEIR ADULT LIVES,
IN BATCHES OVER A FEW
DAYS OR WEEKS.**

The larva or nymph

1. Take a matchstick and start wrapping wool around it, leaving the head free – this will be the larva's head.
2. Keep on wrapping, especially in the middle section so that the body of the larva is thicker in the middle. When you think the larva is thick enough, tie the end in a knot.
3. Cut three short lengths of wool and tie them around the body leaving the lengths to dangle – these are the three pairs of legs.
4. Now, tie a shorter length by the head – this will be the larva's antennae.
5. Make another leaf, like the one you made for the dragonfly eggs and fold it lengthwise.
6. Glue the larvae on top of the leaf and position it on the other side of the egg box.



The dragonfly

1. You can make as many or few dragonflies as you like to 'fly' around the edge of your eggbox lid.
2. For the body part of the dragonfly, colour a wooden peg, either just with one colour, or make beautiful patterns.
3. Draw the dragonfly's eyes at the opposite end to the end you squeeze to open the peg.
4. For the wings, fold a rectangular piece of recycled paper or card in half. Draw one wing shape twice. Cut around the shape and then unfold the card to reveal a set of wings.
5. Decorate the wings and glue them onto the part of the body nearest the eyes.
6. Your beautiful dragonfly can then be pegged onto the edge of the eggbox lid.

**DID YOU KNOW
THERE ARE OVER 50
DIFFERENT SPECIES OF
DRAGONFLY IN THE
UK?**



Why not take a walk in nature and see if you spot any dragonflies?

You could even download the Seek app to help you identify different species. Find out more at:
www.wwf.org.uk/seek.

Get Social

We're a social bunch here at WWF so please share your creative makes with us on social media by tagging @WWF_UK and using the hashtag **#LearnToLoveNature**.

Alternatively you can email us at education@wwf.org.uk. We'd love to see your work!