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Carrying on from their captivating appearance, let's dive into the fascinating world of a dragonfly's life cycle. Dragonflies start their life as eggs, usually laid in or near water, and when they hatch, they turn into nymphs. Nymphs live in the water and go through several stages of growth before they climb up a plant stem to shed their skin and emerge as an adult dragonfly. This transformation from water-dwelling nymph to air-gliding adult is a captivating process called metamorphosis.

Speaking of water, dragonflies have quite an interesting diet, especially when they are nymphs. During their water-bound nymph stage, they feed on a variety of aquatic creatures, including mosquito larvae, fish, and even other dragonfly nymphs. Once they emerge as adults, they become excellent hunters, using their exceptional speed and agility to catch and eat insects while in flight. Their appetite for mosquitoes and flies makes them very beneficial to humans, as they help to control the populations of these annoying insects.



Let's wrap up with some fun facts about these dazzling creatures. Dragonflies have been around for a very long time - fossil records show that they existed over 300 million years ago! They are also known for their amazing endurance and speed, with some species capable of flying up to 60 miles per hour and migrating across oceans. So next time you spot a dragonfly, remember they are not just beautiful, they are ancient, helpful, and incredibly strong too.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

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- 5) How long ago did dragonflies exist according to fossil records?
 - A. less than 50 million years ago
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- 11) How do dragonflies fly in different directions?
 - A. They have two pairs of wings that can beat independently.
 - B. They change the shape of their body to control their flight direction.
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Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 32) Adult dragonflies catch and eat bugs while they are flying.
- 33) Dragonflies are the best hunters among all insects because they can catch food while flying.
- 34) Before they become adult dragonflies, they live as nymphs in the water.
- 35) The speed at which some dragonflies can fly is utterly unbelievable.
- 36) Dragonflies have big eyes that can see around them in all directions.
- 37) It is very fascinating to learn that dragonflies can migrate across oceans, just like birds.
- 38) Dragonflies have been on Earth for more than 300 million years.
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- 41) The way dragonflies can fly forward, backward, and hover is absolutely amazing.

Determine if the statement is true or false.



- 42) The process of transforming from a nymph to an adult dragonfly is called metamorphosis.
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- 47) Dragonfly nymphs only eat other nymphs.
- 48) Dragonflies only have one pair of wings.
- 49) Adult dragonflies live in the water.
- 50) Adult dragonflies can eat insects they catch while in flight.
- 51) Dragonflies can see in all directions because of their large, multifaceted eyes.

Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.

- 52) They won't lay their eggs far from water.
A. cannot B. will not
C. do not D. are not
- 53) Dragonflies haven't always been this small.
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- 66) Explain the life cycle of a dragonfly.
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- 69) Baby dragonflies feed on small aquatic creatures. What conclusion can be drawn about their initial stage of life?
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- 71) Dragonflies catch and eat their prey, including mosquitoes, while flying. What can be deduced about dragonflies based on this information?
- A. Dragonflies wait for their prey to land. B. Dragonflies are not capable of catching their food.
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- 72) Dragonflies have exceptional eyesight, and their eyes take up most of their head. What can be inferred about dragonflies from this information?
- A. Dragonflies don't use their eyes to hunt. B. Dragonflies are blind.
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- A. Dragonflies prefer habitats near bodies of water like ponds, lakes, and rivers. B. Dragonflies prefer living in dry, desert areas.
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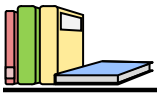
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| 2. <u> B </u> | 27. <u> true </u> | 52. <u> B </u> |
| 3. <u> A </u> | 28. <u> true </u> | 53. <u> A </u> |
| 4. <u> C </u> | 29. <u> false </u> | 54. <u> D </u> |
| 5. <u> D </u> | 30. <u> true </u> | 55. <u> A </u> |
| 6. <u> C </u> | 31. <u> true </u> | 56. <u> C </u> |
| 7. <u> A </u> | 32. <u> fact </u> | 57. <u> exclamatory </u> |
| 8. <u> C </u> | 33. <u> opinion </u> | 58. <u> imperative </u> |
| 9. <u> C </u> | 34. <u> fact </u> | 59. <u> interrogative </u> |
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| 21. <u> false </u> | 46. <u> true </u> | 71. <u> D </u> |
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