

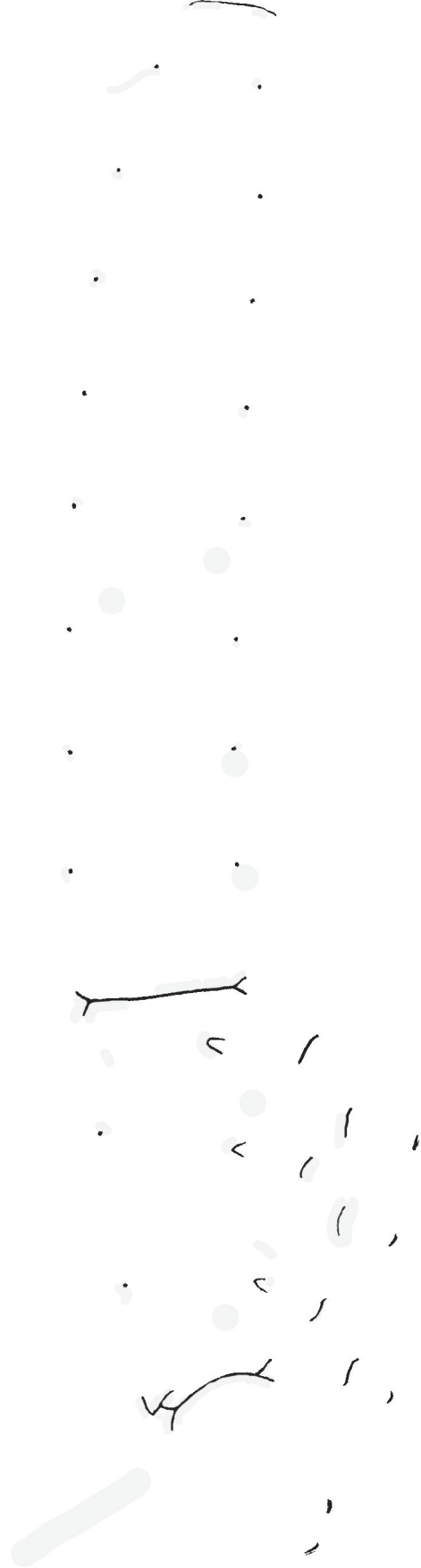
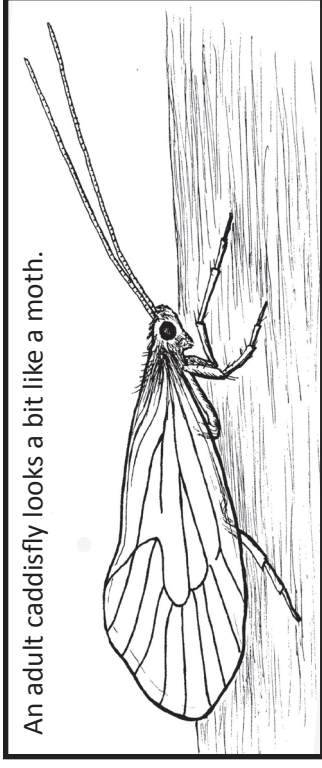
THE CADDISFLY

The caddisfly lives in and around ponds and streams. During its larval stage, it lives completely under the water, much like a crayfish. Depending on the species, caddisfly larvae will eat algae, fungi, decaying leaves, dead bugs, worms, or insect larvae. Most species make some kind of burrow to hide in, and some make elaborate tubes out of small objects they find in their environment. The objects are held in place by threads of silk that are produced by special glands near their mouth. The tube is not stuck to their body, and they can move around inside of it. When it is time to pupate, they seal off both ends of the tube. The adult moth hatches underwater and must get to the surface quickly. (Many are eaten by fish.)



Fish love to eat caddisflies and caddisfly larvae. They will swallow the shell along with the larva.

An adult caddisfly looks a bit like a moth.



Caddisflies are sensitive to pollution. If there are a lot of caddisflies in a pond or stream, that means the water quality is good.