












# Plants and Animals of Trafford

## No 3 Creatures of the Pond

<p>Greater Water Boatman</p>		<p>Feeds on the surface swimming upside down with needle like mouth parts for piercing prey insects that land on water surface.</p> <p>Size up to 16mm</p>
<p>Lesser Water Boatman</p>		<p>Swims face down scrabbling food from the sediment at the bottom of the pond. Uses mouth parts to suck up organic debris and algae.</p> <p>Size up to 12mm</p>
<p>Ramshorn Snail</p>		<p>Coiled shell and feeds on algae and rotting plant material.</p> <p>Size up to 30mm diameter</p>
<p>Common Pond Snail</p>		<p>Shell spirals to a point. As Ramshorn snail lays eggs in gelly lines of around 500 eggs under leaves.</p> <p>Size up to 50mm</p>

Great Diving Beetle (larvae)		<p>Predator of small fish, tadpoles and other invertebrates in the pond.</p> <p>Size up to 50mm long.</p>
Great Diving Beetle		<p>Adult beetle carries a bubble of air over its body to allow it to dive to the bottom of the pond for food.</p> <p>Size up to 30mm long.</p>
Water Scorpion		<p>Does not have a sting in its tail but in fact this tail is a breathing tube. Uses pincer like front legs to grab prey such as tadpoles and other small insects.</p> <p>Size up to 35mm long.</p>
Daphnia		<p>Also known as water flea. Uses antennae to drag food particles floating in the water to its mouth which makes the animal appear to jump.</p> <p>Size up to 3mm.</p>
Water Louse		<p>Feeds on the bottom of the pond by shredding dead and decaying matter. Looks very similar to its land based cousin the Wood louse</p> <p>Size up to 13mm.</p>
Fresh Water Shrimp		<p>Feeds similarly to Water Louse above but swims through water rather than walks along bottom. Prefers much cleaner water to the Water louse.</p> <p>Size up to 25mm.</p>
Dragonfly Larvae		<p>Dragon flies spend the majority of their lives under water and only gain wings for a short while as adults to mate. The Larvae are predators with a hinged jaw allowing them to grab passing prey.</p> <p>Size depends on species up to 80mm.</p>

## Blood Worm



Live in mud and silt at bottom of the pond where oxygen levels are low. Red colouring is due to blood which allows them to attract oxygen to live. They are not in fact worms but the larvae of a midge. Size up to 20mm.