

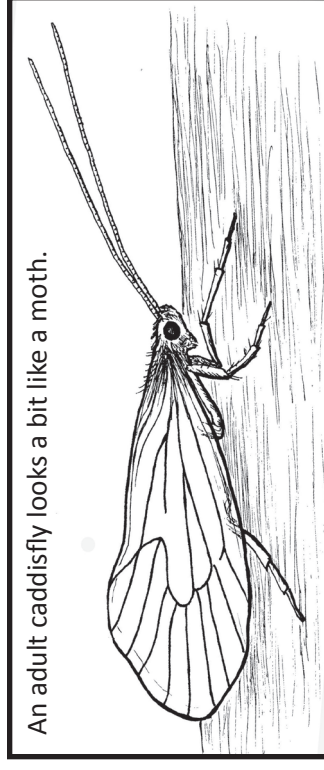
THE CADDISFLY

The caddisfly lives in and around ponds and streams. During its larval stage, it lives completely under the water, much like a crayfish. It eats a wide variety of foods including algae, fungi, decaying leaves, dead bugs, worms, or insect larvae. Some species of caddisfly use small objects they find in their environment to build a tube-shaped shell around their long abdomen. The objects are held in place by threads of silk that are produced by special glands near their mouth.

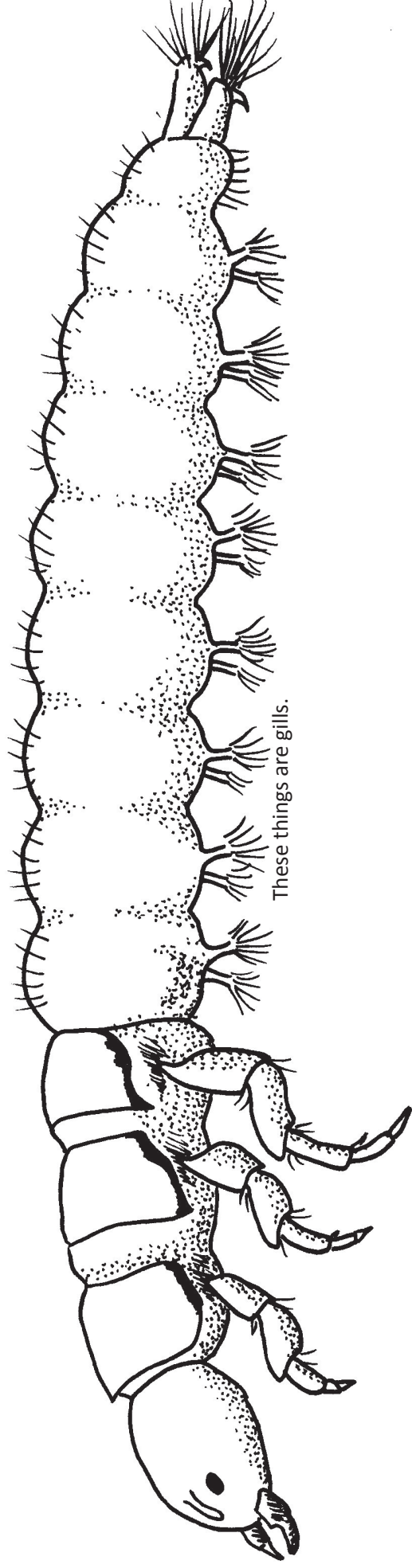


Fish love to eat caddisflies and caddisfly larvae. They will swallow the shell along with the larva.

The caddisfly larva isn't stuck in its tube. It can move around inside and can leave the tube if necessary. When it is time to pupate, it will seal up both ends.



An adult caddisfly looks a bit like a moth.



These things are gills.

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