



MAGNIFICENT MACROINVERTEBRATES: BUILD-A-BUG ACTIVITY

There are so many unique “bugs” or macroinvertebrates in our local waterways from streams to ponds, rivers to lakes. Each one plays a very important role to keep our habitat healthy and clean. Macroinvertebrates include many species of insects as well as worms, mollusks, and crustaceans.

CHALLENGE: Can you create or build your own water bug?

Look at some examples below of some water “bugs” or macroinvertebrates.



DRAGONFLY NYMPH



WATER BOATMAN



CADDISFLY



POND SNAIL



SCUDS

ACTIVITY: You can use many things to create you own macroinvertebrate. Here are some questions to think about while building.

- Does your macroinvertebrate have legs and how many?
- Are the legs hairy or have suction cups?
- Does it have a tail?
- Does it have antennae?
- Does it have a special mouth to get food?
- What does it eat?
- How does it move?
- Does it camouflage or is it bright?

Below are suggested materials you can use to make you own macroinvertebrate. Do not forget to give your macroinvertebrate a great name!

MATERIALS FOR BUILDING A MACROINVERTEBRATE:

- Tape or glue
 - Pipe Cleaners
 - Empty toilet paper rolls
 - Googly eyes of different sizes
 - Feathers
 - Pieces of fabric
 - Cotton balls
 - Toothpicks
 - Colorful beads
 - Construction paper
 - Tissue paper
- ...or anything fun you have at home to make a bug

Share your creations with us! Have your favorite share a photo of your "bug" with us on social media! Tag us! #SHAKERLAKES