

# Findings from the Field

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## Life of A Caddisfly

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# Life Of A Caddisfly

Trinity T.

Date: April 25, 2022

Time: 8:40

Location: woods behind school



On Monday, April 25, we went into the woods behind the school to look at a vernal pool. A vernal pool is a small body of water that has no fish and dries up during the summer. Wood frogs and salamanders use them to lay their eggs. We went to look for frog eggs and caddisflies. We saw frog eggs but no caddisflies or salamanders. Caddisflies are a group of insects with aquatic larvae and terrestria. I was wondering what their life cycle was and their life span? How many different species are there? What do they eat? What do they do to survive? What are their habitats?

Based on my research, there are about 14,500 different species that scientists have discovered. Annulipalpan larvae make casing around them and sit and wait for food to come to



them. Integripalpan larvae make portable to protect them while they look for food. Most larvae eat algae, diatoms, aquatic plants, and plant debris. Some other caddisflies eat other aquatic insects. Their life cycle includes 4 stages- egg, larva, pupa, and adult. Just like moths, caddisflies are most active at night and are attracted to light. They can produce cases for larvae, typically made from rock, sand, leaves, and other underwater debris. Caddisflies look a lot like little moths with two pairs of hairy wings. Adult caddisflies usually live from a few weeks to several months depending on the habitat and species. The aquatic larvae are commonly found in ponds, rivers, lakes, streams, spring seeps, and vernal pools.

I wanted to learn about caddisflies because I was interested in what they are and what they do. I got the answers by asking about life cycle and lifespan, their habitats, eating habits, and different species. Caddisflies are small and don't live long, they also don't do much except eat and try not to die. I learned that they are mostly found in bodys of water such as lakes and ponds. With this information, I know a lot more about caddisflies and hope to learn more. The next time we go to the vernal pool, I wonder if we will see any caddisfly eggs.

Citation

Orkin. 2022. Caddisfly Facts and Information. [Caddisflies - Orkin](#)