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The Flippy Mosquito Larvae

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The Flippy Mosquito Larvae



On Monday, May 2, our class went out to a vernal pool. The habitat was a forested area. It was very mucky and leaf-littered. We found a bunch of different species. Lots of frog eggs but what most interested me was the mosquito larvae. This made me wonder how many larvae 1 mosquito can lay?



After doing some research I figured out that 1 mosquito can lay up to 200 eggs. The average mosquito lays eggs every 3 days. I also found out that once they lay 300-600 eggs they will die. If you think about it, that gives them a really short life. Mosquitoes also can carry West Nile virus which is harmful to humans and other animals. Mosquitos are larvae for 2-8 days. From then they will grow and their first mission is to lay eggs of course! You may be wondering what the mosquitoes feed on. The mosquitos eat by drinking water and filtering the nutrients out of it. Overall I think that mosquitoes are fascinating creatures.



In our vernal pool the most dominant larvae were the mosquito larvae. They were everywhere! They squiggled and flipped around, that is one way we could tell what they were. Based on my research mosquitos lay hundreds of eggs every few days, so that is probably why we saw so many in the vernal pool. If we go back to the vernal pool I want to see if

there are fewer larvae because some could have hatched in adults and left the pool, or there could be more that have been laid by adult mosquitos.

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