
Aquatic Insect Vocabulary

Abdomen-the posterior body segment in insects

Adaptation-characteristic that allows an organism to live in its environment

Benthos-bottom community

Carnivore-organism that eats meat

Complete metamorphosis-form changes that involves four stages including egg, larva, pupa, and adult

Domesticate-tame

Detritivore-organism that eats dead and decaying plant and animal material

Ecosystem-a community of living organisms

Entomologist-scientist that studies insects

Habitat-an area or environment in which an organism normally lives or occurs

Herbivore-organism that eats plants

Incomplete metamorphosis-form changes that include egg, nymph, and adult stages

Insect-invertebrate distinguished by an exoskeleton, three body parts, and three pairs of legs

Labium-an armlike extension used by some insect larvae to grab and hold their prey

Larva-newly hatched, wingless, often wormlike form of many insects

Life cycle-stages of development in the life of an organism

Macrohabitat-large, complex environment

Metamorphosis-a marked change in appearance

Microhabitat-the specific place where an organism prefers to live

Pest-harmful plant or animal

Pollinate-to fertilize by transferring pollen

Pupa-nonfeeding stage between the larva and adult in the metamorphosis of an insect

Predator-an animal that hunts for food

Prey-any animal that is hunted and caught for food by a predator

Spiracle-small respiratory opening in the body of an insect

Thorax-middle region of the insect body, used for leg and wing attachment