



Painting with a Scientist 1: Dragonflies.

Adapt this art project to the time and materials you have on hand! You can paint a square canvas with acrylics like Science Mom does in the demonstration, or color this guide using markers, crayons, or colored pencils like Math Dad. Whichever approach you take, we hope you enjoy learning about these incredible predators along the way!

Fast facts:

**Dragonflies have existed on Earth for hundreds of millions of years. The largest fossilized dragonflies, Meganeura, had wingspans of over 70 cm (28 inches)!*

**Odonata (dragonflies and damselflies) do not go through a complete metamorphosis. They hatch from eggs to nymphs, become larger nymphs with each molting, and then – with their last molt - they emerge from the water and sprout wings.*

**Odonata nymphs have hinged jaws that extend to catch prey. They are fierce predators and can even catch small fish!*