Pond life: answers and notes

What your child practised: naming minibeasts and plants that live in a pond, and where in the pond they live: on top, under the water or at the edge (Year 2 science).

Page 1 · Warm up

Ring **water lily** and **reeds**.

Page 2 · Try it together

1. **sinks** 2. usually **floats** (try again if not)
5. **sinks**

Page 2 · A. Name each minibeast

water boatman, **dragonfly**, **pond skater**, **pond snail**

Page 3 · B. Where does it live?

On top: **pond skater**, **water lily leaves**
Under the water: **water boatman**, **pond snail**
At the edge: **reeds**

Page 3 · C. Pond or land?

pond skater, **water boatman**, **pond snail**

Page 3 · D. Draw

Plants and minibeasts in sensible places, like a pond skater on top and a water boatman underneath.

Challenge: No. A minibeast walking **on top** of the water with long, thin legs is a **pond skater**. A water boatman swims **under** the water, paddling with its two long back legs.

Watch out for

- **Pond skater and water boatman mixed up.** Ask "Is it on top of the water, or swimming underneath?"
- **Pond or land?** Woodlice, ladybirds and centipedes live on land. Ask "Could it swim?"
- **Pond plants in the garden.** Water lilies and reeds need water; daisies and dandelions grow on land.

Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **Pond sort:** name a living thing. Your child says "pond!" or "land!", then "on top, under or at the edge?"
- **In the game:** this is the last chapter. Play the whole bug hunt again to find all 17 minibeasts.