

Many people from many lands have honored dragonflies. In China and Japan they decorate pottery, silk gowns, paintings and many other items. There are even famous poems, for example:

*See the dragonfly
his face is practically nothing -but an eye!*

Chisoku

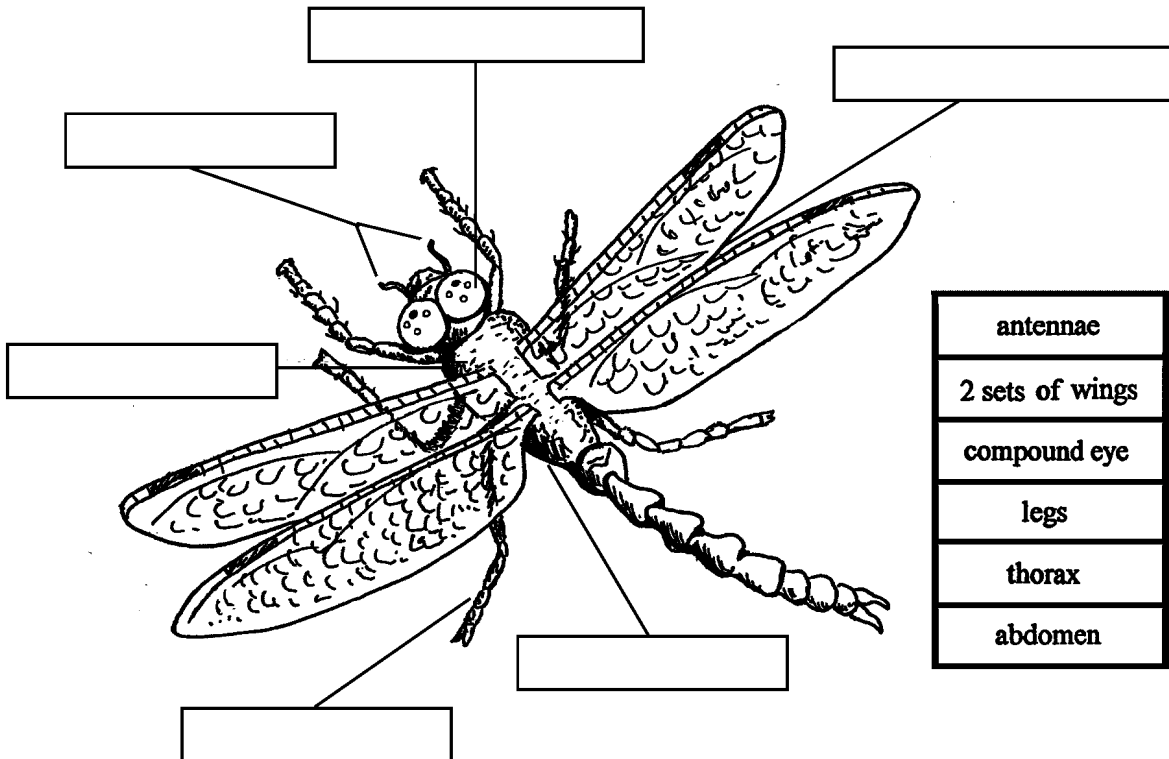
There are many interesting superstitions about dragonflies. They have been nicknamed "horse stingers" because they hover around horses (eating the horseflies), "snake doctors" because they were supposed to guard snakes (they live in the same habitat as snakes) and "devil's darning needles" because of their needle-like bodies. In one superstition, dragonflies flew around sewing up the eyes and ears of naughty boys (it doesn't mention naughty girls). One of their nicknames, is a very accurate one. Dragonflies are also known as "mosquito hawks" because of their large appetite for mosquitoes.

The dragonfly is a typical bug or insect. Like all adult insects, the dragonfly has:

- a body with three parts: thorax, head and abdomen
- a thorax with 1 or 2 pairs of wings, and 3 pairs of legs
- a head with antennae, eyes and mouthparts
- mouthparts for biting, piercing, sipping or lapping

Name the body parts. Use the information in the box to help you.

Diagram of a Dragonfly



- | |
|-----------------|
| antennae |
| 2 sets of wings |
| compound eye |
| legs |
| thorax |
| abdomen |