

Hello, we are the school's Junior Park Rangers and we hope you enjoyed your time off for the school holidays! If you went outside or visited any parks we would love to hear all about it!

This month we have been learning about lifecycles and how dragonflies have babies. Did you know that they need to lay their eggs in water, so they can't live without ponds, lakes and small streams?

They are children for more time than they are adults, and the children live underwater for their whole lives, growing bigger and bigger. When they are ready to turn into adults they climb up some reeds and shed their skin, growing wings and getting ready to fly.

Both young and adult dragonflies are very good at hunting. They have big eyes for looking at prey, which are the things they want to eat. They have sharp hooks on their jaws, and when they fly around as adults they are like helicopters, moving in lots of different ways to chase their food! If you ever see dragonflies around a pond or lake, they may have been laying eggs!

Can you think of any other animals that need to go back to water to lay eggs?
(Newts, toads and frogs all do this!)

This month is Water Safety Day and, as there are lots of ponds and lakes in Milton Keynes, remember to be very careful if you visit parks with water in them. You shouldn't play near water and swimming in swimming pools is much safer! There are lots of dangers that you can't see in lakes and rivers and they are very cold, even in Summer. If you do fall in you should try not to panic, shout for help, and float on your back like a starfish with your arms and legs in a star shape.

Thank you for listening and we hope you have learnt something today.