



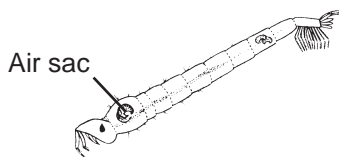
Streamlined shape

The streamlined shape with bulky head, fins and tail lets the stickleback and animals such as mayfly nymphs swim rapidly through the water



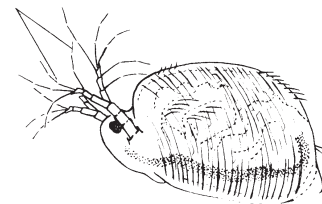
Paddle-like legs

The last pair of legs are long and fringed with hairs, allowing the water boatman and water beetles to 'row' through the water



Air sacs

Air sacs in animals like the non-biting midge larva and phantom midge larva allow the animal to stay in the same place without sinking



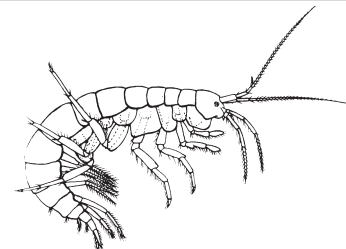
Bristles

Some animals, such as the water flea and water spiders, have abundant bristles, which increase resistance to water and prevent rapid sinking



Suckers

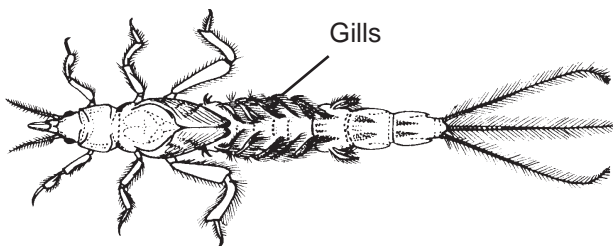
The leech has suckers which can hold the animal to the bottom of a stream. It moves by looping along with the help of its suckers



Flattened shape

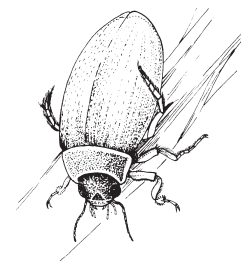
Some animals are flattened, such as freshwater shrimps and flatworms, so that they can avoid the current by sliding over the stream bed

Adaptations for obtaining oxygen



Gills

Mayfly nymphs and damselfly nymphs can extract dissolved oxygen from the water through their gills



Scuba divers

The diving beetle and water boatman have hairy bodies which trap air bubbles from the surface. They take air with them when they dive.