

# Mayfly Life Cycle

Colour in these pictures while learning about the mayfly's life cycle.

**Spinner** – males dance in a swarm and females enter the swarm from above to mate.

**Dun** – flies to plants on the river bank and transforms into a spinner.

The above-water part of the life cycle all happens within a day or so.

The female lays eggs on or below the water surface.

Mayfly nymphs live in the water for up to two years.

Egg hatches into a **nymph**.

When the nymph is ready, it travels to the surface of the water to emerge as a **dun**.

The nymph **moults** several times as it grows.