



# Featured Creature



Common green darter  
(*Anax junius*)

C. Bonadonna

## Dragonflies

*Odonata - Anisoptera*



### Animal Type

Invertebrate



### Habitat

Mainly freshwater  
(e.g., streams, ponds)



### Diet

Bugs, tadpoles and minnows



### Range

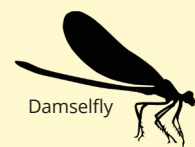
Every continent except Antarctica

### Dragonfly or damselfly?

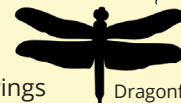
Wings: *Dragonflies* - out & down  
*Damselflies* - together & upright

Eyes: *Dragonflies* - lie flat on their heads  
*Damselflies* - stick out on either side

Size: *Dragonflies* - bigger & different sized wings



Damselfly



Dragonfly

### Researcher Spotlight



**Christine Bonadonna**  
PhD Student  
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### What do I study?

I study freshwater communities and the impact of climate change by looking at ponds in the Eastern Sierra Nevada mountains.

### Why do I love research?

I chose this research because I am passionate about the health of our freshwater systems and fascinated by the incredibly diverse groups of invertebrates that they contain.

### Dragonflies have cool life cycles!

Dragonflies lay their eggs in freshwater. Those hatch into aquatic **larvae**. They spend the majority of their lives in this stage. Depending on the species, they'll spend 2 months to 5 years as larvae before they transform and emerge from the water as the familiar colorful adult dragonflies we know.



Dragonfly larvae