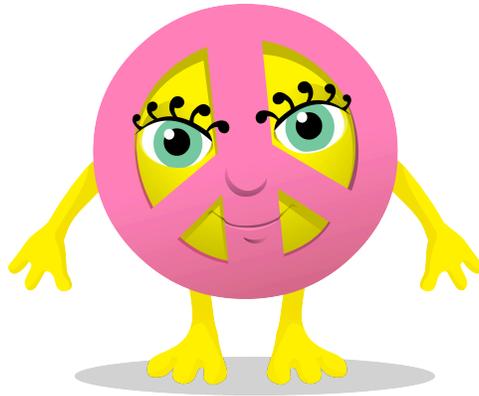




### #3: Caddis Fly Casings

#### Materials Needed:

- Recycled paper towel rolls (1/2 per child)
- Glue sticks
- Trays or plates
- Small rocks, sticks and/or shells
- Caddis fly pictures to color (included, 1 per child)
- Crayons/Markers/Colored Pencils
- (Optional) Pictures from the internet of caddisflies



*“Hi from Patsy Peace! It’s so important for animals and humans to respect each other and exist together peacefully. We need to remember that even when it comes to Earth’s smallest creatures! The more you know about Earth’s creatures, the more ways you can help them.*”

*Today we’re learning about a brave little insect that makes its home along clean rivers, streams, lakes and ponds: The Caddisfly! Caddisflies are fascinating creatures and if an aquatic community has a large caddisfly population, it is usually a sign that the water in that area is nice and clean.”*

#### **Caddisfly Background Info:**

Caddisflies spend the first part of their lives in the water when they are still larvae (babies!) These young larvae use a cement-like silk glue that they make themselves to create a home (called a case) all around their lower bodies.

They use small rocks, dirt, bits of wood and other organic matter they can find to make these cases and protect their fragile bodies. These cases protect them from predators, like fish!

Caddisflies are an important part of an aquatic ecosystem. You can make your own model of a caddisfly case, like the ones that caddisfly larvae make to survive and thrive in their environment!

### **Caddisfly Case Activity:**

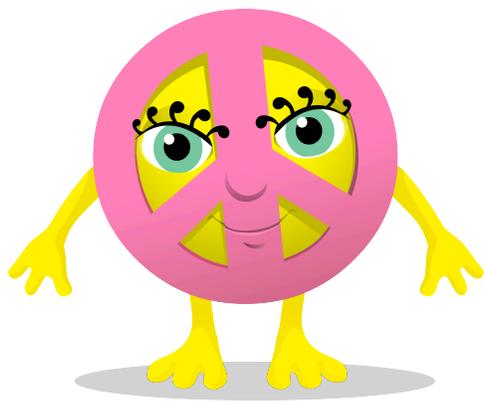
- Spread out some pebbles, dirt, sticks and other bits of organic matter on a tray or plate.
- Take a paper towel tube and cover it with glue using your glue stick—this is like the cement-like silk glue that caddisflies use!
- Roll your paper towel tube on the tray of outdoor materials
- You may need to pick up some rocks or shells and push them onto the glue to make them stick
  
- Take a cut-out caddisfly picture and color it in
- Carefully place your caddisfly larvae into its protective case
- Now it can live safely in its environment!



### **What's next?!**

Spend some time looking at caddisfly pictures in books or pictures on the Internet. Does their case look similar to the one that you created?

What other interesting insects exist in aquatic ecosystems?



*“Did you have fun learning about caddisflies today? I love learning about any kind of creature that I can help protect so it can thrive!”*

**Caddisfly picture to color:**



Photocopy and pre-cut, one for each child

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