SC AAS Macro Key

START HERE

SHELLS

DO NOT COUNT empty or opened shells.

ONE SHELL

Lunged Snail
opens on left

Gilled Snail
opens on right

TWO SHELLS

Clams and Mussels

NO SHELLS

LEGS

10+ LEGS

Crayfish
lobster-like

Scud
shrimp-like, swims on side, side-to-side flat

Aquatic Sowbug
walks on bottom, top-to-bottom flat

3 PAIRS OF LEGS

NOT BEETLE-LIKE

Net-Spinning Caddisfly Larva
two brush-like tails, plates, gills on abdomen

Helgrammite/ Dobsonfly, Fishfly, Alderfly Larva
large mouth parts, "spines" on side

Stonefly Larva
2 tails, long & stiff, long antennas

BEETLE-LIKE

Riffle Beetle (Adult)
small, crawls on bottom

NO LEGS

WITH TENTACLES, BRUSHES, OR "TAILS"

Aquatic Snipe Fly Larva
pointy head, two tails

Crane Fly Larva
large, with tentacles

Black Fly Larva
bowling pin shape

WORM-LIKE

Leech
suckers, expands and contracts

Aquatic Worm
segmented body

Midge Larva
distinct head, soft

Riffle Beetle Larva
dark and "crunchy"

LEGS

NO OBVIOUS "TAILS"

Water Penny
tiny, suction cup-like

Dragonfly Larva
large body, hinged mouth

Casebuilder/Free Swimmer Caddisfly Larva
lives in a case or has hook-like tails

ONE OR TWO "TAILS"

Mayfly Larva
3 long tails, gills on abdomen

Damselfly Larva
no gills on abdomen, oar-shaped "tails"

MORE THAN TWO "TAILS"