

Dragonfly or Damselfly???

- Damselfly (order *Odonata*, suborder *Zygoptera*)
 - More slender, and usually smaller
 - Wings folded up and behind when resting
 - Eyes never touch
 - FLIGHT: Weak; Flutter and Float – usually low, in vegetation
- Dragonfly (order *Odonata*, suborder *Anisoptera*)
 - More robust, and usually larger
 - Wings held out (like an airplane) when resting
 - Eyes *usually* touch (except with Clubtails & Petaltails)
 - FLIGHT: Strong; Zip and Glide – often high, eye-level or above

*See next slide for photos that illustrate the above differences



Damselflies



Dragonflies





Damselfly or Dragonfly?

How do you know?



Damselfly or Dragonfly?

How do you know?

Unusual Looking Damselflies



Ebony Jewelwing -

Commonly seen in N. VA's
woodland streams



Great Spreadwing —

Spreadwings are the only damselflies
that don't fold their wings behind their backs