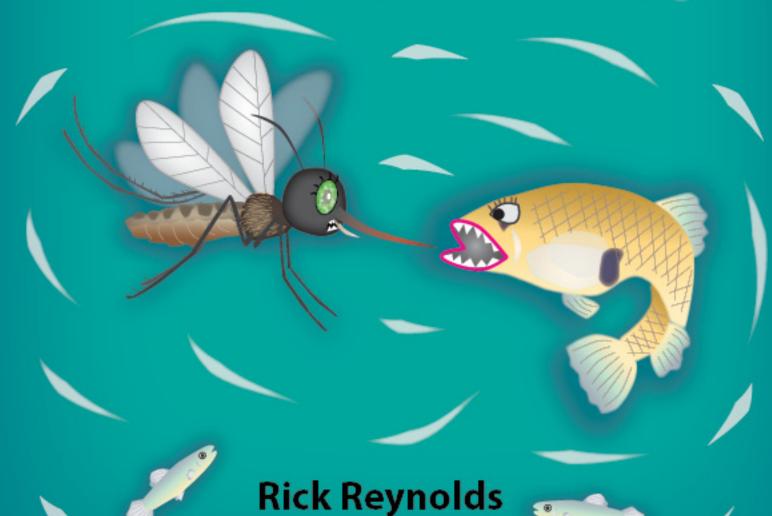
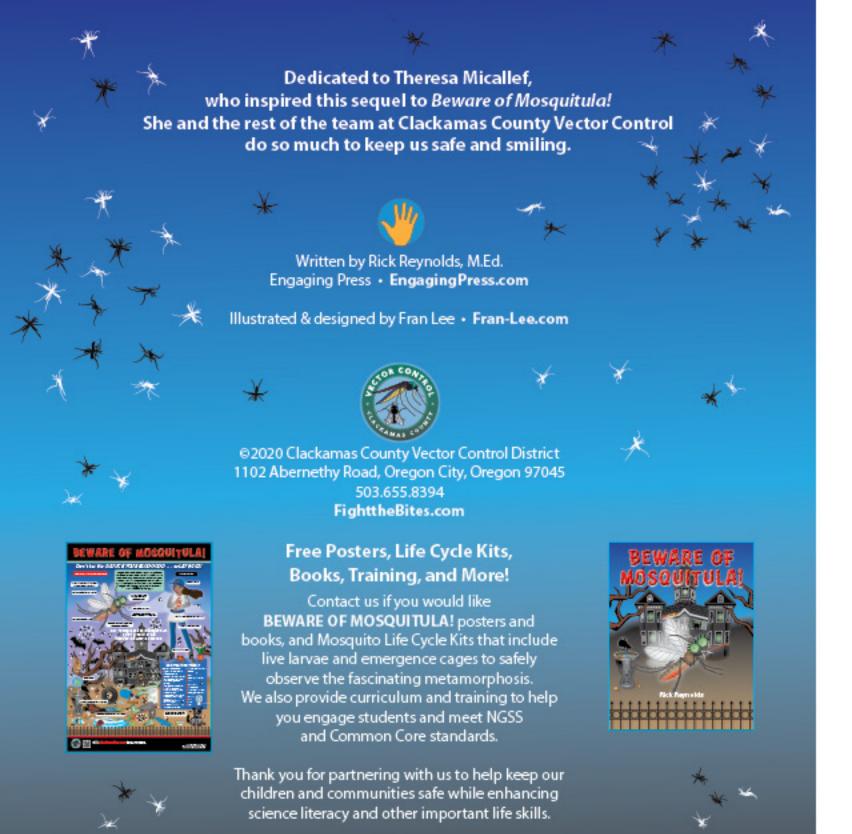
## MOSQUITULA MEETS THE GREAT GAMBUSII





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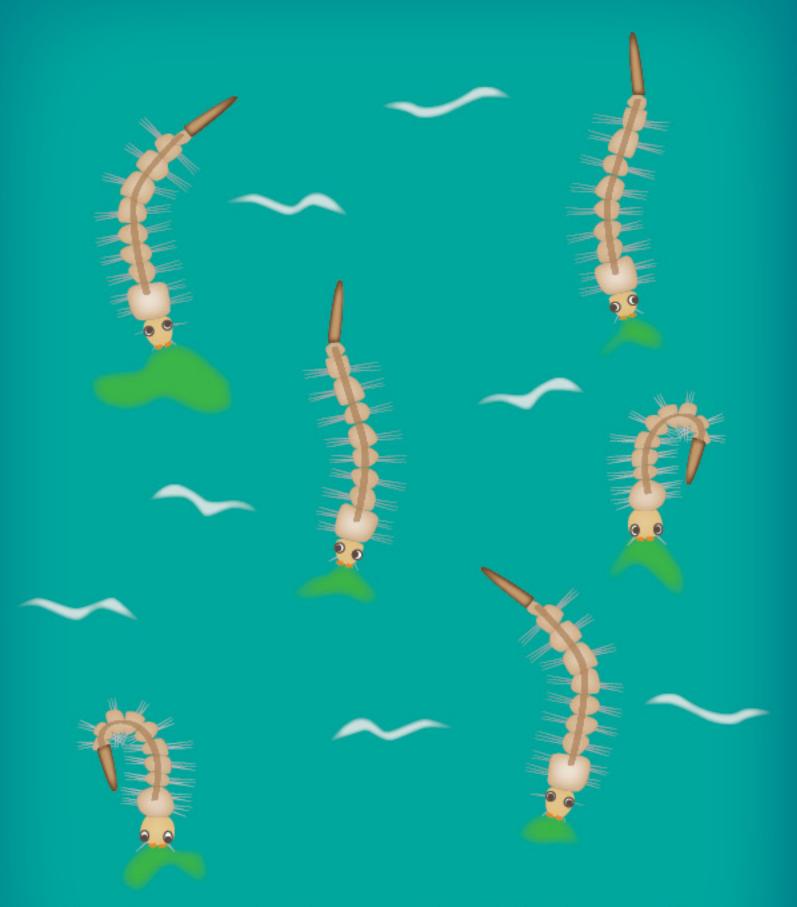
Rick Reynolds



FighttheBites.com







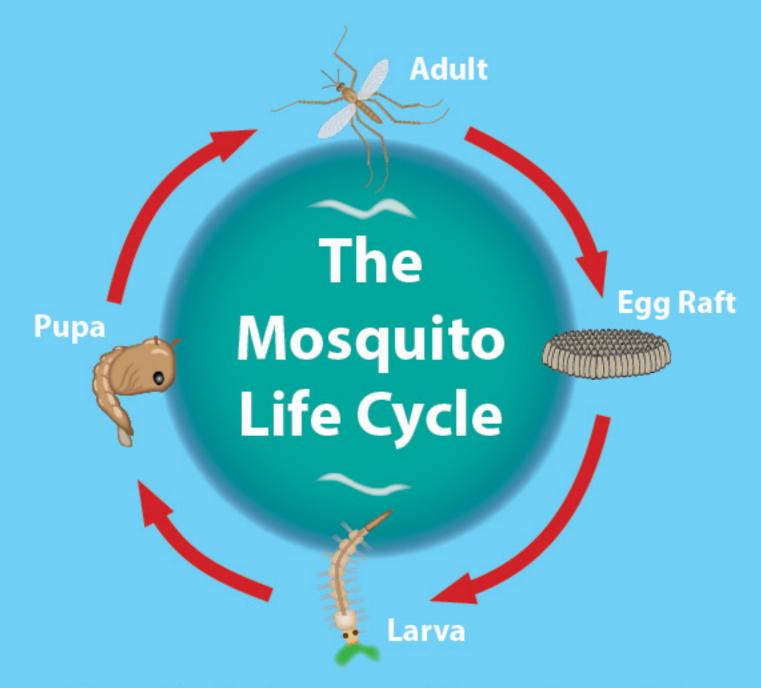
The larvae wriggle around upside down eating algae with their mouth brushes.

Each larva sucks in air with a special breathing tube.

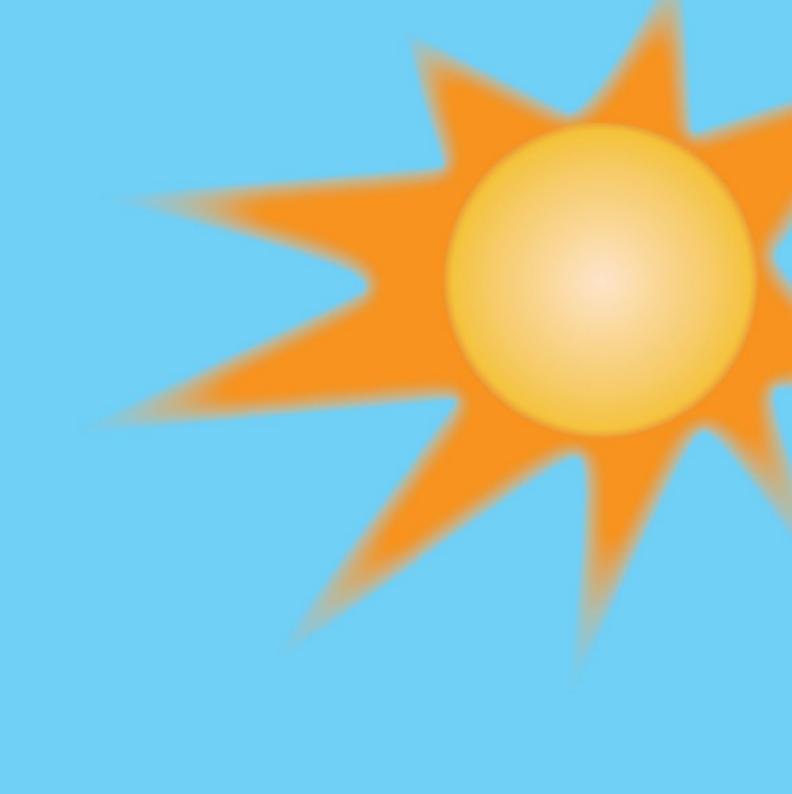


This amazing adaptation lets them get the oxygen they need from the air, not the water, like most aquatic insects. These larvae can "par-tay" in scary water, too.

## **METAMORPHOSIS**



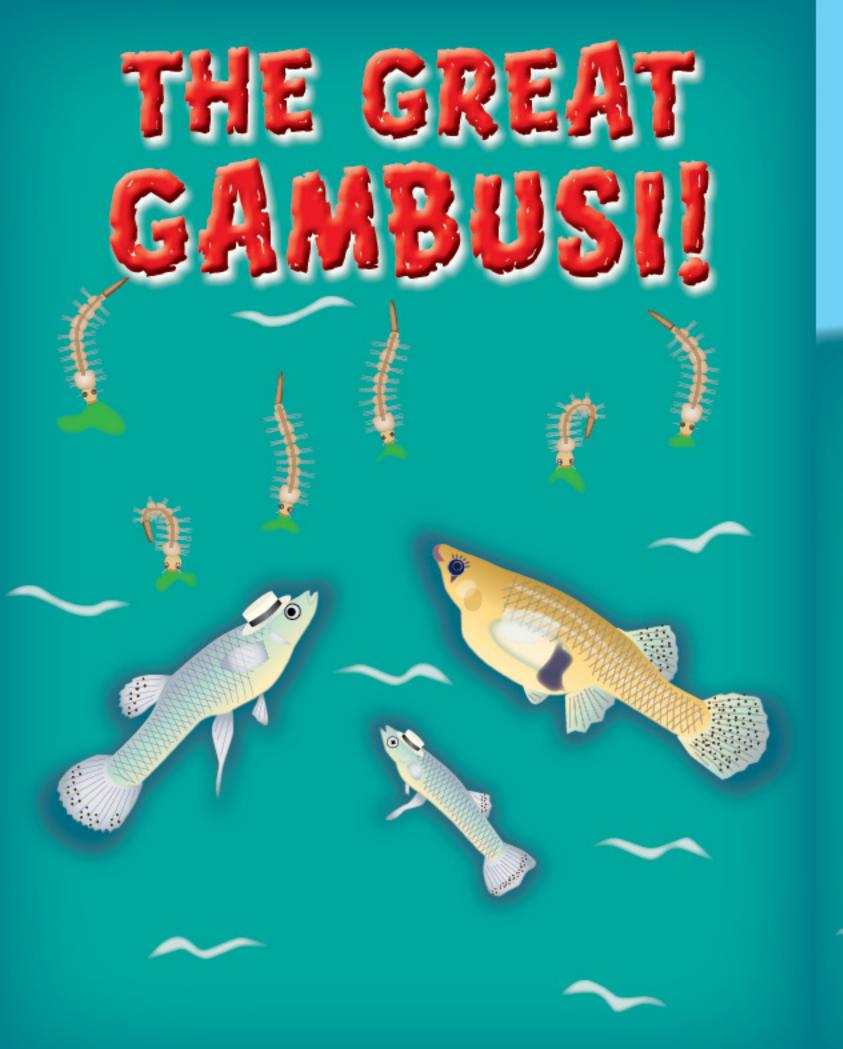
Normally, the larvae would soon change into pupae, then into adult mosquitoes, after being warmed by the Sun. This incredible metamorphosis, from egg to adult, can happen in LESS THAN A WEEK if it's warm enough.



But something else is lurking in the zombie's pond.

Something really

**HUNGRY...** 



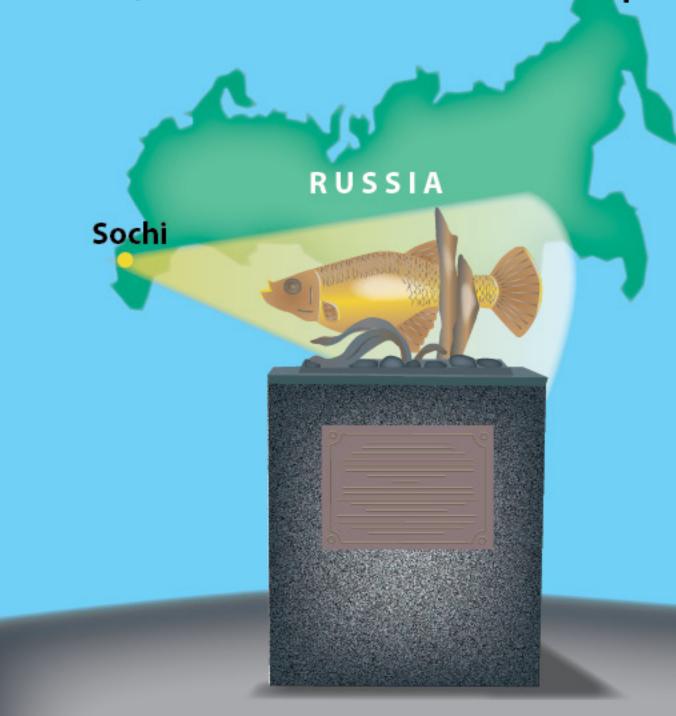


With quick gulps, they make the larvae disappear!

Mosquitofish, with the scientific name Gambusia affinis, are magicians at making larvae vanish without a trace.

Even baby fish—called fry—can perform the trick.
Unlike most fish that start life as eggs, they swim
right out of their mothers ready to hunt!

Mosquitofish are famous for stopping mosquitoborne diseases in many places around the world. In Russia, there is even a Monument to Mosquito Fish.



They wiped out the dreaded disease malaria there about 100 years ago—just by being hungry predators!



## NO!

Mosquitofish are SUCH good predators that they can be an invasive species.



They eat many other types of insect larvae that native fish like salmon need, and they can hurt and drive away other native fish.

But as long as we make sure they can't invade natural water bodies, The Great Gambusi are a magical way to help FIGHT THE BITES!

They can even gulp down Mosquitula and all of her eggs—YUM!

More Ways to Fight the Bites!

 Wear long-sleeve shirts, pants, socks, and a hat at night.
 Bug spray on your clothes can help, too.

- Get rid of standing water.
- Go inside at dusk— MOSQUITULA'S favorite time to suck blood.
- Look for holes in screens.
   Fix them so she can't get in!
- Bats and birds like swallows eat MILLIONS of mosquitoes! Make or buy houses for them.
- Use a fan outside at night.
   Wind can keep MOSQUITULA from landing on you!
- Be extra careful in wetlands and forests.
- Contact Clackamas County Vector Control. They can help with free mosquitofish and a lot more!



