

Wetland organisms in Hong Kong

4.3.1 Wetland organisms and their homes

The following plants and animals inhabit in different types of wetlands in Hong Kong. Try to find out their homes by tracing the line upward and make a turn when reaching a junction.



Many-petaled Mangrove :
I am one of the eight true mangroves in Hong Kong. My knee-jointed roots raise above the ground, which help me to breathe under anaerobic condition.



Pied Avocet :
My bill is long and curved upward, which help me to prey on mud surface.

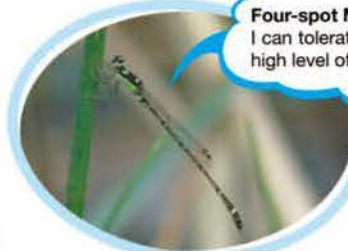


Grass Crap :
I am a freshwater fish that is cultivated widely around the world.

Oval Halophila :
I am the commonest seagrass in Hong Kong. My spoon-shaped leaf is the most distinctive feature.



Big-headed Terrapin :
My carapace is flat, which help me to move in fast flowing water.



Four-spot Midget :
I can tolerate relatively high level of salinity.

Goose Barnacle :
I adhere myself firmly to rock, so that I would not be washed away by waves.



Solider Crab :
I feed on the organic matters in soil. I will burry myself into the sand when disturbed.



Butterfly Fish :
My body is flat laterally, corals are my neighbours.



Please fill in the habitats in the spaces provided.

Many-petaled Mangrove – _____ Goose Barnacle – _____

Big-headed Terrapin – _____ Grass Crap – _____

Oval Halophila – _____ Butterfly Fish – _____

Four-spot Midget – _____ Pied Avocet – _____

Solider Crab – _____

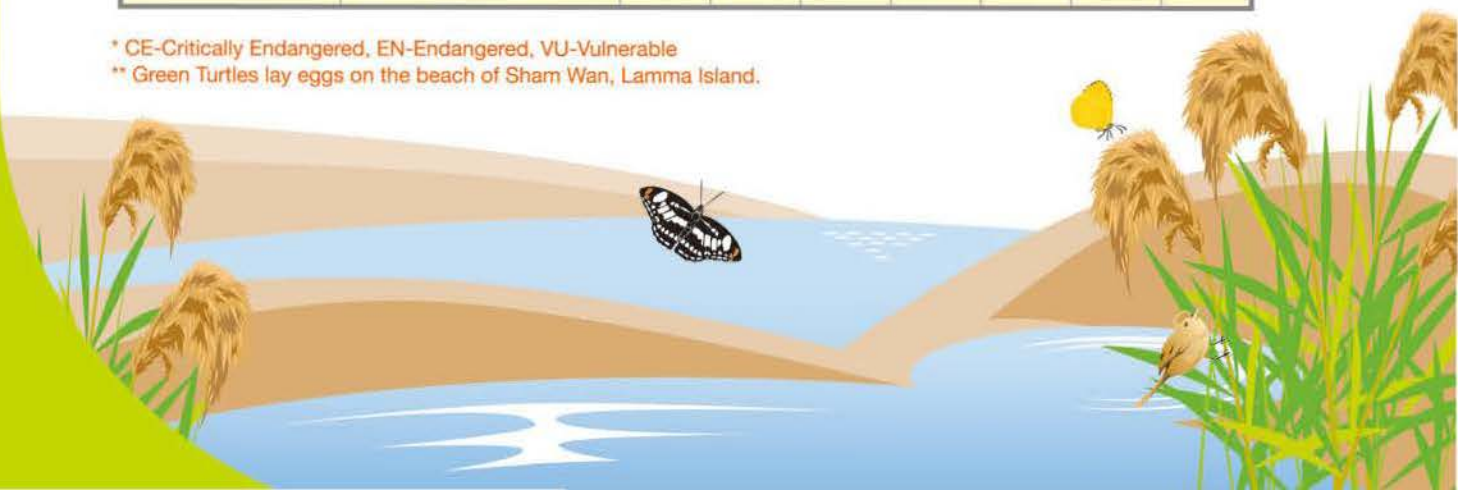
4.3.2 Precious Wetland organisms

Please check the conservation status of the animals from Hong Kong Biodiversity Database and put a “✓” in the appropriate space.

Common name	Wetland habitat	IUCN Red List			China Red Data Book			
		CE*	EN*	VU*	CE*	EN*	Rare	VU*
Water Fern	Freshwater marsh							
Pitcher Plant	Freshwater marsh							
Green Turtle**	Sandy shore							
Three-banded box turtle	Stream							
Giant Spiny Frog	Stream							
Club-tailed Cruiser larva	Stream							
Spoon-billed Sandpiper	Mudflat, <i>Gei Wai</i>							
Black-faced Spoonbill	Mudflat, Brackish marsh, <i>Gei Wai</i> , Fishpond							
Black-headed Gull	Mudflat							
Pacific Reef Egret	Rocky shore							
Giant Mottled Eel	Stream, Lakes, Reservoir							
Ayu	Brackish marsh, Pond and Stream							
Hong Kong Grouper	Coastal area, Coral community							
Eurasian Otter	Coastal area							

* CE-Critically Endangered, EN-Endangered, VU-Vulnerable

** Green Turtles lay eggs on the beach of Sham Wan, Lamma Island.



4.3.3 Species Endemic to Hong Kong

Please check the distribution of the following endemic species from the Hong Kong Biodiversity Online.

Spangled Shadow-emerald

Habitat : Fast-flowing streams

Local Distribution : _____



Hong Kong Paradise Fish

Habitat : Slow-flowing water and marsh

Local Distribution : _____

Romer's Tree frog

Habitat : Tadpoles live in shaded and slow-flowing water. Adult live in woodland.

Local Distribution : _____

Romer's Tree Frog is categorized as "Endangered" on the IUCN Red List.





4.3.4 Use 40 - 60 words to write a short passage on the following topic.

If all wetlands in Hong Kong are destroyed.....

Reference Websites:

China Species Information System: <http://www.chinabiodiversity.com/search/searchwwf.shtm>

Hong Kong Biodiversity Online: <http://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/conservation/hkbiodiversity.html>

The World Conservation Union (IUCN): <http://www.iucn.org>

