Eight-Spotted Skimmer
(Libellula forensis)

How to Identify:
• This large dragonfly has a length of about two inches.
• The “eight spots” in the name refer to the total number of spots on the wings.

Habitat:
• Ponds, lakes, and slow streams.
• It occurs throughout Idaho at low elevations.
• Adults fly from June to mid-August

The adults hunt from perches on sticks and rocks.

Explore Idaho with Scout the Fox!

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
parksandrecreation.idaho.gov
Eight-Spotted Skimmer
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**Fun Facts:**
- Adults feed on a variety of flying insects including mosquitoes, flies, butterflies, moths, mayflies, and flying ants or termites.
- The aquatic larvae feed on mosquito larvae, other aquatic fly larvae, mayfly larvae, freshwater shrimp, small fish, and tadpoles.

**Help Protect the Eight-Spotted Skimmer**
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides.
- Support conservation of natural areas for all wildlife.
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1. On your next visit to an Idaho State Park, check out the dragonflies you see, are there any Eight-spotted skimmers at the park?

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2. If there were no dragonflies, would we have more or less flies and mosquitoes?

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