Behaviour plays an important role in antipredator defence. Prey species employ various behavioural strategies that differ in function, complexity, and timing within the predation sequence. This thesis focuses on five specific strategies: substrate choice, signals of evasiveness, behavioural mimicry, tonic immobility, and the combination of behaviour with other types of defence.

Substrate choice involves selecting environments that enhance cryptic colouration and reduce the likelihood of detection by predators. Signals of evasiveness include displays that deter predators by indicating alertness or strong physical condition, lowering the chance of a successful attack. Behavioural mimicry is based on imitating toxic, dangerous, or otherwise well-defended species through movement, sound, or posture. Tonic immobility is a temporary state of stillness and reduced responsiveness, often triggered by direct contact with a predator, and may discourage further attack.

Some species combine behavioural strategies with morphological, chemical, or other defences, which may act at different stages of predation and increase survival chances.

This thesis aims to summarise current knowledge of these strategies based on experimental studies, present examples from vertebrates and invertebrates, and classify them within the predation sequence.

Key words: antipredator strategies, defensive behaviour, substrate choice, signals of evasiveness, behavioural mimicry, tonic immobility