

Study a minibeast



Learn about the wildlife in your local area and inspire the next generation of minibeast heroes! This activity could be followed by thinking about how you could take action for insects in your own area and help the bugs you found. **Always be careful with minibeasts - they're delicate!**

Time: One-three hours

#30DaysWild

What you'll need

- A bug pot or similar to catch minibeasts in
- A small paintbrush
- Smartphone or camera
- Pen and paper
- Internet access or bug ID guide
- Ruler or measuring tape
- Magnifying glass



What to do

1. Head out into the garden or the local area and go on a minibeast hunt. Check underneath stones, on fences and on leaves!
2. Ask the children to catch a minibeast in the bug pot, using the paintbrush to help (or you can take photos that make ID possible!).
3. Study the bug and make a note of the following things:
 - a. What colour is it?
 - b. Is the body hard or soft?
 - c. How many legs does it have, if any?
 - d. How big is it?
 - e. Does it have wings? How many?
 - f. Where did you find it?
 - g. How does it move?
 - h. Is it eating anything?
4. Try to identify the creature online or using an ID guide.
5. Release the minibeast back where it was found.
6. Encourage the kids to make a factsheet about the minibeast they chose, including a drawing.
7. You could extend the activity further by asking them to make up their own insect, using the questions above.



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You could try an adapted version of this activity with bird song! Look for birds in your garden or local area. If you can, listen to their songs and encourage the children to try to describe what the birds sound like on their factsheet.

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Abbie from
The Wildlife Trusts

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