

Did you know?

- Insects hatch from eggs.
- Insects grow in stages & shed their skin between each stage
- Many insects look completely different at each stage of their life cycle
- Most adult insects have 3 pairs of legs
2 pairs of wings & one pair of antennae
- Minibeasts don't have backbones!
Because they don't have a backbone, minibeasts usually have other structures which support and protect them. For example, a snail has a shell.
- Minibeasts make their homes in lots of places, both inside our homes (spiders) and outside under logs, stones or leaves, in ponds, in trees, in grassland, in soil.



Fun Facts

- Slugs have four noses.
- Some worms have ten hearts!
- Dragonflies have been around on Earth since before the dinosaurs.
- Butterflies and caterpillars use their feet to taste with.
- The Giant African Land Snail can grow to 30cm in length.



Stories & Rhymes to Learn

The Very Hungry Caterpillar



Incy Wincy Spider

The Ants Go Marching

There's a Worm at the Bottom of my Garden

5 Little Speckled Frogs



Vocabulary

habitat	The place where an animal or plant usually lives.
creature	A living person or animal.
minibeast	A very small animal without a backbone
insect	A very small animal with a hard covering over the outside of it's body to protect it
chrysalis	The hard covering on a moth or butterfly when it is changing into an adult.
antennae	'Feelers' on the top of an insect's head that are used to sense what is around it.
life cycle	The changes that living things go through as they grow.
rare	Not often found or seen.
symmetry	Both sides are balanced in shape, size and colour.
magnify	Make something look bigger.
facts	Things which are true.

Home Learning conversations

Talk to an adult in your family

- Talk to your grown up about how we can protect the minibeasts in our own environments – our gardens.
- If you could be any minibeast, which one would you be and why?
- Choose 2 minibeasts and talk to an adult about what is the same and different about them.

Other things you might like to try

- Try and attract beautiful minibeasts to your garden by planting some plants that butterflies like best! These include Buddleia, Verbena, Lavender, Perennial Wallflower and Marjoram.
- Get your magnifying glasses and binoculars out and go on a minibeast hunt. Have a look under logs and stones and get as close as you dare! Can you take a clipboard and draw any of the creatures you come across?

