

Investigating Minibeasts

Use your garden, the local field or park for this investigation into the lives of small creatures.

You will need-

Small clear jars, with lids
A magnifying glass (if you have one- don't worry if you don't!)
A camera
Clipboard, pen and paper to draw or write what you find

Key words-

Spider	Creature
Beetle	Legs
Ladybird	Catch
Worm	Careful
Slug	Gentle
Snail	Scared
Bee	Touch
(Any minibeasts name)	

1. **Explore-** Talk to your children before you go about collecting minibeasts. Emphasise care and kindness and the need to be still and quiet. Then go and see what you can find!
2. **Talk-** As you look, talk about the different creatures, their names and features.
3. **Experiment and observe-** Encourage your children to look carefully at the creatures they have found, counting legs, wings and eyes, naming colours and movements. Talk about where different minibeasts live, what they eat, and how they move. Don't forget to let them go on the same day you catch them.
4. **Record-** Draw the minibeasts. Record what your child says, and their likes and dislikes. Take some photos of the minibeast hunt.

Taking it further

Try making a wormery. Make a book of the creatures you found.



What are the children Learning?

They are extending their vocabulary. They are finding out about the features of living things. They are observing and identifying features in the where they live and the natural environment.

