

Minibeasts

Communication and Language – (Listening and attention, following instructions and concentrating)

Ask the children to tell you what they think a minibeast is?

Minibeasts are 'small creatures', like worms, snails, insects and spiders. The scientific term for them is 'invertebrates' – a creature without a backbone. Because they don't have a backbone, minibeasts tend to have other structures which support and protect them. ... There are over 25,000 minibeast species in Britain.

Can you ask your child to name a minibeasts?

Watch on YOU TUBE - What is a minibeast? | Primary Biology - Animal Types

Watch and learn the **Minibeasts song** – on you tube – a very catchy song indeed!



Creative

Can you make a pair of binoculars for your minibeast hunt? Using toilet rolls/wrapping paper/paint/celotape/piece of wool.

Can you make a minibeast out of junk? Think about how many legs/wings they may have.

Can you take a photo of a minibeast you may have found? Then draw a picture of it.



Reading together

Literacy

Reading - read any minibeast story books you may have together with your child.

Please view this Book (this is popular in Nursery) on you tube – **Mad about Minibeasts** by Giles Abdreas and David Wgtowylz - Click link to view:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SW-7MgHEZOE>

This book covers lots of rhyming, counting and looks at many minibeasts.

Encourage your child to sit to the story at different times so viewed over a few days and each time ask a couple of these questions below:

Which creature carries his house on his back?

Where does a slug live?

What do worms eat?

Minibeast Topic

Where does a spider live?
How many feelers does a beetle have on his head?
Where are the earwigs pinchers found?
What does a stick insect pretend to be?
What were the ants carrying to their nests?
What does the caterpillar turn into?
How many spots did the lady bird have?
How many hands did the centipede roughly have?
Where do bees live?
What do the grasshoppers enjoy doing?
What was your favourite minibeast in the story?

This is encouraging interest in the illustrations within the book, encouraging good listening and their ability to recall.

Extending the learning - Did they notice anything special about the book? It was written in rhyme. Do they know that the print is written in English and we read it left to right, top to bottom?

Do they recognise any letters in the book?

Jolly phonics on you tube – look at M (for minibeasts)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JgHidP5ioJo>

Don't forget to do the action with the letter sound. What words does your child know that begin with the letter sound M? please allow them time to think. Here are some ideas – sound out the 'mmmmm' sound each time when saying.

mummy, mouse, monkey, man, mat, milk, mail, mad, match.

Can you find some objects around the home? Can you write the letter M.?

Extending - You could work your way through different letter sounds of each minibeast you discover.

Additional phonics websites – to access the phase one games for Nursery age.

<http://www.phonicsplay.com>

www.phonicsbloom.com

Literacy - Writing

Can you make a wiggly worm pattern with a pencil? Or in some dirt in the garden? Can you write any letters from the minibeast names?

Have you got an empty box – cereal or tissue box? Make holes in it with a sharp object and then encourage your child to thread something you have (paper straw, piece of wool/ribbon/unused cable?) through the holes like a wiggly worm. Great to build and develop muscle strength in your child's hand getting the hand stronger and ready to hold a pencil correctly ready for writing.

Minibeast Topic



Understanding the world – Encourage your child to investigate and hunt for minibeasts – discuss where they may be found? Can you go outside and explore? Make your own minibeast hunt sheet, drawing what you found and how many of them? If you cannot get outside have a look at the minibeasts above and discuss with your child. Where do they think they would find them? How do they think they travel via the air or on the ground? How many have wings and can fly? Where might they live? What do they eat? Discuss why we need to place them back once we have had a good look at them.

Watch – Minibeast adventure with Jess – Earth day special bugs for kids – (please note this is quite long so can be watched in instalments, covers many minibeasts and where to find them)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PODiDusyZg0>

Technology

Can you use a camera/phone/ipad etc to take photos of minibeasts you may have found?
Can you follow a simple computer programme about mini beasts?

People and communities

See if your child can describe and remember what you did over the Easter break. Did you have a mini Easter egg hunt, did you face time your family? Did you eat anything special? (I appreciate this is difficult and probably very different to what you would normally do over the holidays due to the current circumstance)

Did you make the Chocolate Rice Krispie cakes together from the Easter learning?

Physical

Visit you tube for

Kids Yoga all about bugs

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qIT-9Nnlvn0>

Minibeast Topic

Bug'n Roll | Dance Along | Pinkfong Songs for Children – Action song

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7xyXB8_BetQ

Can you move like a minibeast? What actions can you achieve? Can you crawl, slither, hop, fly, flap, buzz or slide?

Maths

Minibeast counting –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F10LRMyMw5E&list=PL773dg5WAbfPXBpjLK2puuJMOt1DVJFzA>

Find 20 small objects and separate the objects into different groups i.e. groups of 3/4/6 and ask the children to count how many are in each group, the aim is for the child to begin to recognise that the total in each group are the same. (This is quite challenging for some)

Encourage the child to show an interest in representing numbers i.e. Can you give me 5? Can you give me 8? Can you take 2 away? How many have you got now? This can be adjusted to ability.

Continual counting objects 1-20 and beyond



Expressive arts and Design

Ring game challenge – do you remember “The farmers in his den?” Or “Ring o ring of roses”?
Can you achieve this as a family together?

Could your child sing you their favourite nursery rhyme and act out with actions if there are any?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uRsuanAdmsg>

Being Imaginative

Listen to your child whilst they playing with their toys, are they being imaginative and vocalising what is happening in their play? Engage within with your child's play, to see what fun they are having and pretend with them too. See what adventure you have. There is no right or wrong, you are just encouraging your child to use their imagination.

Please don't forget if you have access to a printer and signed up for the month free at twinkl via google— there are lot of minibeast activities on their website, if you would like additional ideas.