

All About Mini Beasts

Mini Lesson Plan

Lesson	Do you know your mini beasts?	40-minute lesson
Learning Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To understand why mini beasts are important to us To be able to identify different mini beasts To be able to take part in habitat creation 	
Resources Needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification Wheel All About Mini Beasts Bug Pots (if required) All About Habitats – Craft Activity Ideas 	

Adaption maybe required for student with any additional needs

	Outline	Resources
Introduction 5mins	<p>Do you know what we mean by the term 'mini beasts'? – Class Discussion</p> <p>This includes –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insects Spiders Beetles Snails Worms Centipedes etc <p>Mini Beasts is a term referring to invertebrates – animals without a backbone. They are found in almost all habitats on earth and play a vital role in our ecosystems. They act as a food source for many vertebrate species, pollinate our plants and help decompose organic matter, recycling nutrients.</p> <p>In fact there are about 25,000 different types of invertebrate living in the UK, and around 20,000 of these are types of insect.</p>	
Activity 1 – Identifying/ Naming Mini Beasts 15mins	<p>Where do you think mini beasts might be living around us? – Class Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trees Wild Areas Mud Leaf/Wood Piles <p>Activity</p> <p>In groups/pairs - explore the area/school grounds and look for areas where mini beasts might be living. Use the Identification Sheets/Wheel to match them to their name and/or their habitat.</p> <p>If required, bug pots could be used to collect mini beasts to show and share with others. Before collecting them, students should be advised to -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not dig the pots into the ground – they will not be able to see what they have collected if it is covered in mud Not leave their pot in direct sunlight Not to shake the pot if there is anything alive inside Safely and respectfully, return any specimens back to where they were found Ensure students wash their hands after the activity <p>Come back together to compare what each group has found, seen and in what habitats.</p>	Identification Wheel All About Mini Beasts Bug Pots (if required)

Activity 2 – Creating a Home for Nature 15mins	After exploring your outdoor space, think about ways you could improve it to attract more mini beasts. These ideas and more are all in the teacher resource – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat Creation • Planting • Wild Areas 	All About Habitats – Craft Activity Ideas (Other resources will depend on the craft chosen)
Plenary – 5mins	What do you know about mini beasts now that you didn't before? – Class Discussion	