

Usually in the month of May we would celebrate the Biodiversity of our school environment.

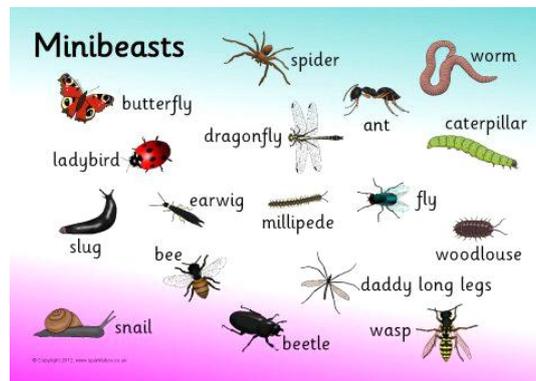
Here are some activities for you to get outdoors and explore the other living things in your environment.

We would love to see any drawings or photos of what you find.

Remember you don't need a printer or anything fancy to do these activities.....good spy eyes, a keen sense of smell, good listening ears, and patience is really all you need!!

MINIBEAST HUNT

Be a detective and see can you spot these creatures in your garden, balcony, park?



Draw pictures or write a list of what you find. If you have a printer you can get recording/reference sheets here:

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/48349/minibeast-hunt.pdf>

<http://botanicgardens.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Spring-Nature-Hunt.pdf>

TREE IDENTIFICATION

What trees are growing around you? Can you be an observer and an investigator by looking at leaves, twigs and branches to identify them.

What words would you use to identify the leaves?



Broad, narrow long, short, small, smooth, bumpy, furry, flat, wide, ridged, veined, fragrant, glossy, pointed, shiny?

These 2 identification keys may be useful

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/48347/twig-id-sheet.pdf>

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/48345/leaf-id-sheet.pdf>

GARDEN VISITORS

How many of these birds are visiting your garden, park or neighbourhood? You may see some new



visitors now that the streets are quieter? Why is this?

<http://birdwatchcork.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Challenge-ID-Poster.pdf>

BUG TRAP



Make a trap to collect tiny creatures. Dig a hole in the ground, big enough to fit a glass jam jar.

Put a little soil and grass and leaves at the bottom of the jar and place it in the hole so that the top of the jar is level with the ground. Put a piece of plastic or wood on a couple of sticks to stop the rain from getting in while leaving space for insects to get in. Leave it overnight and then see what you have caught.

Record what you have found: How many legs have they got? What colour are they? Have they got antennae? Make sure to release your captives after you have investigated!

MAKE A FLOWER PETAL COLLAGE

With permission, collect different coloured and sized flower petals and leaves. Assemble them to make a collage. You can stick down on paper or if you have contact sticky paper, you can make a suncatcher like in this picture.



MAKE CLOUD STORIES

When the weather is sunny, with nice white clouds passing over, lie on the grass with your family or on your own and look up at the sky. It is fun to see different shapes like faces, animals or and objects and make up stories! You could record one of your stories by writing it, drawing it, telling it or videoing it. Be creative!

