

Incy wincy spider climbed up the waterspout! Why do ladybirds have spots? Why do spiders spin webs? It's time to find out more about minibeasts and their habitats.

This half term, we'll visit a local park to carry out a minibeast safari! Magnifying glasses clutched firmly in hands, we'll look under logs, leaves and stones for creatures that wriggle, crawl or fly. We'll find out about minibeast habitats, features and colours, and compare them. Observing snails in a tank, we'll think about how they move. Can we move like that too? We'll also move like ants, working together to collect and carry objects to move and rebuild a structure, piece by piece. To get to know these creepy crawlies better, we'll make and monitor a mini wormery, minibeast hotel and a butterfly garden. Can we predict what will be these minibeasts' favourite foods? In our literacy sessions, we'll use sequential vocabulary to retell stories, and write a story from the perspective of a spider. In our mathematics sessions, we'll predict and count ladybird spots and compare the lengths of caterpillars made from cubes, counters and beads. Getting creative, we'll make leaf confetti, minibeast finger puppets, and learn to wobble dance like a bee.

At the end of the project, we'll invite you to an assembly where we'll share our learning with you. We'll also make brightly-coloured pebble beetles and give them scientific names.

Help your child prepare for their project:

Minibeasts are marvellous! Why not visit your local pet shop together and take a look at some exotic minibeasts. Can you find out what countries they came from? You could also try worm charming in your garden. Put a large hoop on an area of earth, water the area with a watering can, and tap your fingers lightly on the ground. Can you entice any worms to the surface? Alternatively, read minibeast-themed stories together, such as Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and *The Bad-Tempered Ladybird*, to find out more about these incredible creatures.

Memorable experience	Minibeast safari
Innovate challenge	Butterfly garden
CLD	Listening and attention; Understanding; Speaking
PD	Moving and handling
PSED	Self-confidence and self-awareness; Managing feelings and behaviour; Making relationships
English	Reading; Writing
Maths	Numbers; Shape, space and measures
World	The world; Technology
Exp A&D	Exploring and using media and materials; Being imaginative