

### Personal Social and Emotional

- \* Share stories, knowledge and experiences that we have about mini beasts, which is your favourite and why? Which are you scared of and why?
- \* Talk about bug collecting and how we have to be gentle and kind. We must look after them and release them when we have finished investigating them
- \* Read 'The Bad Tempered Ladybird' and ask why the ladybird was so cross? What makes you cross? What makes your parents and friends cross?

### Communication and Language

- \* NEW LANGUAGE, compost, symmetry, worm casts, chrysalis etc.
- \* Clap out the syllables of insect names, i.e. la-dy-bird
- \* Ask the children to use describing words to describe the mini beasts
- \* Share story books and experiences about mini beasts
- \* Sing songs about mini beasts such as Incy Wincy Spider, The Ants go Marching 1 by 1.

### Physical Development

- \* Mini Beast themed Cosmic Kids Yoga on YouTube.
- \* Hide plastic mini beasts or pictures in the garden and ask the children to hunt for them
- \* Make a mini beast sensory tray with soil, beans, rice etc. and use tweezers to pick the mini beast out and pop them in a jar/cup
- \* Draw pictures of mini beasts.
- \* Thread wool through a paper plate to make a spider web
- \* Go on a nature walk



## Mini Beasts Home Learning ideas.

### Literacy

- \* Books, factual and fiction about Mini Beasts. Try YouTube for story books.
- \* Make a display with pictures of the mini beasts you have made and have the children write labels or copy your writing.
- \* Use lots of written words to label things
- \* Write a short story together about mini beasts. Have the children choose characters, what are they doing? Who are they with?

### Maths

- \* Go on a mini beast hunt and keep a tally chart of what you see. Make this into a bar chart.
- \* Look at butterfly symmetry
- \* Play a counting game where we roll a dice and add that number of spots to a ladybird template.
- \* Dig for worms and compare the sizes of them

### Expressive Arts and Design

- \* Make butterfly symmetry pictures with paint
- \* Paint and draw mini beasts
- \* Use paper, card and other craft resources to make mini beast pictures and junk models
- \* Make binoculars from toilet roll tubes to use on a nature hunt
- \* Sing mini beast songs and rhymes
- \* Make bugs with play dough, pipe cleaners and junk
- \* Mini beast small world play
- \* Mini beast colouring sheets.

### Understanding the world

- \* Make bug hotels for the garden
- \* Hunt for mini beasts in the garden and observe them in our bug viewers and with magnifying glasses (if you have them). Look for worm casts in the mud
- \* Look for videos on You Tube about bugs and their life cycles
- \* Set up a mini beast small world scene with a variety of sensory resources and plastic mini beasts
- \* Make a wormery with an empty plastic bottle, soil, mud, stones, leaves and vegetable peelings.
- \* Look at and talk about the different life cycles of different mini beasts
- \* Plant seeds (if possible) which will attract butterflies and bees to our garden and talk about how important they are to the environment

## **Ideas and Links for our Mini Beast Topic**

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

The Very Hungry Caterpillar Animated Story <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75NQK-Sm1YY&t=6s>

The Very Quiet Cricket Animated Story <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YdiGEjz5b0Q>

Mini Beast hunt checklist <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/T-T-019-Minibeast-hunt-sheet>

Caterpillar Counting activity <https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/344877283949513684/>

Play dough bugs <https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/558798266264496484/>

Hungry Caterpillar Craft <https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/AamxgOBb1RsKXHxMlooQtPPFvSAbld3ds1HygAio6Zuu-XQ7NhlG3as/>

Snail Craft <https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/374572893997154959/>

Butterfly Life Cycle <https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/644296290422994448/>

Don't forget to visit Twinkl and Pinterest for more ideas and colouring sheets.

