

Communication and Language

Two step instructions to find hidden minibeasts
Talk about minibeasts using display photos
Role play masks
Minibeast sensory trays
Minibeast songs and rhymes
Minibeast hunt using magnifying glasses
Minibeast photographs

Understanding the World

Mechanics
Build an art farm or wormery
Create minibeast worlds using natural materials
Curiosity Cube
Life cycle of a butterfly
Materials—which would be the best to create a snail's shell?
Minibeasts and their habitats matching cards

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Relationships
Minibeast handling and nature
Picnic for hungry caterpillars—2 of each, 3 of each etc.
Work as a team to create the longest caterpillar
Paired work—complete the minibeast puzzles
The Cautious Caterpillar—why might the caterpillar feel nervous? When do you feel nervous?
Work together to make the longest caterpillar

Literacy

The Three Little Pigs
That's not my bee
The Very Lazy Ladybird
Bumblebear
Superworm
Agghhh Spider
Norman the slug with no shell
Labels
Name writing
Caterpillar feeding phonics game
Insect names—clap syllables
Letter spiders
Outdoor minibeast reading den
Instructions for making a minibeast house/
looking after minibeasts

Nursery Unit Minibeasts



Expressive Arts and Design

Create minibeast costumes
Use natural resources to make minibeasts and small worlds
Butterfly world using pom-poms, twigs, leaves and butterfly peg creatures
Draw minibeasts
Musical instruments to express feelings and create sounds
Butterfly symmetry
Junk modelling—minibeast houses
Playdough minibeasts
Build a house for the three little pigs

Physical Development

Move like a minibeast.
Minibeast playdough
Minibeast crafts
Fine motor skills
Tweezers and webs—minibeasts
Spiderweb tag
Threading beads/cotton reels to make caterpillars
Colouring
Letter formation
'The flight of the bumblebee'

Mathematics

Sequencing
Counting
More than/fewer than
Counting
Ordering numbers
Prepositional language—finding minibeasts
Extending caterpillar patterns
Minibeast subitizing flashcards
Numbered beehives—put the correct number of bees in each hive
0—20: minibeasts number hunt
Put the matching number of spots on the ladybird

Key skills

- Follow instructions
- Write for different purposes
- Join in with songs and rhymes
- Use positional language
- Retell stories
- Learn about life cycles
- Talk about stories and their own experiences
- Experience festivals and celebrations
- Learn how to care for animals and plants
- Develop understanding of emotions
- Take care of ourselves
- Identify 2D shapes
- Identify 3D shapes
- Design and create
- Count to 6
- Hear and recognize sounds
- Develop strength in fingers
- Hear initial letter sounds in words