

A Minibeast hunt from Mrs Coombs

Where to find minibeasts

Minibeasts live in all sorts of habitats. Many prefer dark, damp spots in gardens and woods, so this is a good place to start your hunt. Encourage children to use their best detective skills to track creatures down:

- Peek under large stones and logs to find woodland and millipedes.
- Peer into the cracks in tree bark and deadwood to find beetles and spiders.
- Poke your nose into long grass to see ants and grasshoppers.
- Look closely at leaves to discover caterpillars and ladybirds.
- Keep your eyes peeled after rain – can you spot slugs, snails and worms.
- Lots of creepy crawlies live in trees and shrubs. Lay a piece of white cloth, such as an old sheet or pillow case, under a tree or bush and gently shake the branches. You'll be surprised how many tiny creatures fall out.

Remember – bugs are very tiny, so be careful if you pick them up and always put them back where you found them. Click on the link for a great I.D. card from the Nature Detectives, National Trust website....

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



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