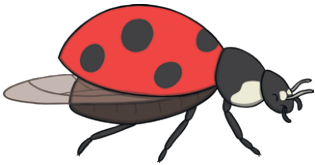


# Minibeasts



Minibeasts are a group of small creatures known as **invertebrates**. There are hundreds of thousands of minibeasts all around us such as spiders, beetles, snails, worms, butterflies and many more.

Some minibeasts have a long body and lots of legs, such as caterpillars and millipedes. Some have wings, such as butterflies and bees. Others make slime to move underground easily, such as earthworms. There are even some minibeasts that are coloured so they can hide on leaves and branches.

## Did You Know...?

A peacock butterfly has eye-shaped patterns on its wings to fool other animals who may want to eat it.



## Where Do Minibeasts Live?

Minibeasts can be found in many different habitats. They might live under logs and rocks, in soil beneath our feet, in piles of leaves, grass, ponds, bushes, trees or even in tiny cracks in walls.



## In the Garden

A garden is a great place to find minibeasts. You might see honeybees and bumblebees if you look closely around flowering plants. Bees are very important to the life of a garden because they move pollen, which allows plants to grow seeds and fruit.



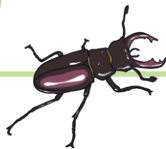
### In Ponds and Rivers

Minibeasts can be found in ponds and rivers. These animals could spend their lives in or near water. Many begin their lives in water and grow to be able to fly or live on land. You might find dragonflies or even spiders living near ponds or rivers. Dragonflies grow into four-winged insects that live in tall trees near water.

### Minibeast Record Holders



Which minibeasts hold the record for being the biggest in the UK?



The largest stag beetle recorded was 8.5cm long.

The largest earthworm ever recorded in the UK was 40cm long. This is the size of a small snake.



### Glossary

invertebrate: A creature with no backbone.