Teachers' Notes **Minibeasts** To explore a woodland habitat for minibeasts/invertebrates To group and sort creatures



Years: Preschool to KS1

Total Duration: 2 hours

Curriculum Links

Animals, including humans: 'identify and name a variety of animals in their habitats, including micro-habitats'

Learning Objectives	Learning Outcomes
 •To identify common minibeasts • Recognise that minibeasts are termed invertebrates • To observe minibeasts in a local habitat and make a record of the animals found • To use keys to identify different invertebrates • To pose questions about minibeasts and the habitat where they live 	All children will be able to describe what a minibeast is and give one example Most children will be able to explain a difference between two different minibeasts Some children will be able to group minibeasts
habitat where they live	minideasts

Programme Summary

This session explores the world of the invertebrates or minibeasts. The children will: learn what the definition of a minibeast or invertebrate is, have the chance to handle the centre's exotic minibeasts, learn the different groups of minibeasts and how to classify them and go on a minibeast hunt in the woods.

Pre-visit Preparation

If you have not visited the centre before a pre-visit is essential.

It helps to brief the children before a visit. Talk through the activities that they will be doing and discuss key vocabulary. What is woodland? What animals might live in a wood? Where do minibeasts like to live? What minibeasts do they know? How do they move and/or feed?

Pre-visit ideas	Post-visit ideas
Work on woodlands and what a minibeast is	Drawing or model of their favourite minibeast
would be of benefit.	Class work on differences and similarities of
Minibeast hunt in school grounds	minibeasts and humans
	ICT/book project work on minibeasts
	Data handling

Please refer to our Health & Safety Information for risk assessments and an outline of the school and Ecology Centre responsibilities.