

Session title	Minibeast Safari		
Key question	How are invertebrates adapted to life on land?		
Session description	Explore our wildlife garden. Identify the invertebrates found there and classify them according to their key characteristics. What adaptations has each animal evolved to suit this habitat?		
Key Stage suitability	KS2		
Duration	1 hour (A 30-minute simplified version is available)		

Curriculum links	Lower KS2 Science		
	▪ Recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways ▪ Use classification keys to group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment ▪ Recognise that environments can change and that this can pose dangers to living things		
	Upper KS2 Science		
	▪ Describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird ▪ Describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including microorganisms, plants and animals ▪ Recognise that living things change over time ▪ Identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution		
Learning outcomes	Most learners will...		More able learners will...
	▪ Be able to use equipment safely and effectively to collect minibeasts. ▪ Be able to correctly observe, identify and classify one minibeast that lives in a garden habitat.		▪ Be able to describe how their animal is adapted to life on land ▪ Be able to describe how minibeasts can be grouped in different ways according to their structure or other features. ▪ Be able to describe the life cycle of at least one minibeast
Key vocabulary	Invertebrate	Antennae	Adaptation
	Insect	Herbivore	Habitat
	Thorax	Carnivore	Micro-habitat
	Abdomen	Omnivore	Lifecycle
	Exoskeleton	Evolution	Larvae
		Camouflage	Metamorphosis

Session Outline	Time
Introduction	5 mins
We welcome learners to the wildlife garden. They predict which minibeasts they might find and consider the micro-habitats that make up the wildlife garden.	

Activity 1: How do animals live in this habitat?	5 mins
We introduce the key question and consider what all animals need to survive and any challenges they might face in a terrestrial habitat.	
Activity 2: Introduction to collecting minibeasts and Health and safety	8 mins
Learners are shown how to collect and observe minibeasts safely and without causing them harm. Equipment is distributed.	
Activity 3: Minibeast Hunt	25 mins
Learners explore the garden hunting for, collecting and identifying their finds.	
Activity 4: Share findings with group	10 mins
Learners come together and share their minibeasts with the rest of the group. They share the name of the minibeast, an interesting observation and an adaptation demonstrated by the insect to life on land.	
Plenary	7 mins
Learners consider how important gardens habitats are to local wildlife and how we can make our homes and schools more wildlife friendly.	