



Minibeast Habitats

KS1 and KS2

Curriculum Links: Science, Design and Technology

Maximum 3 classes per visit

Time	Activity
10:00	Arrive, welcome and introduction
10:15	Pond dipping
11:15	Minibeast search
12:15	Lunch and waste sorting
13:00	Tour of farm
14:00	Programme ends

Important information about your visit

- Please ensure pupils bring a packed lunch
- Please ensure that pupils wear suitable clothing: this should be something that won't spoil if it gets a bit dirty and should be appropriate for the season of your visit. At all times of the year, the optimum clothing includes waterproofs and wellies.
- **It is essential that all pupils and participants bring two pairs of footwear: a pair suitable for the tour of the farm (ideally wellies) and a pair for indoor/travel use.**

Summary of activities

Pond dipping

Using pond nets, trays, magnifying lenses and simple identification keys, pupils will explore the variety of aquatic life living on and under the surface of the water. They will also find out about life cycles, food chains, grouping organisms into families, and the importance of ponds as habitats.

Minibeast search

Pupils will explore the wildflower meadow, hedgerows, and woodland floor to hunt for minibeasts by sifting through leaf litter, turning over logs and catching minibeasts in sampling pots. They will take a closer look and observe simple features, such as shells, number of legs and wings, to identify and sort the minibeasts into groups.

Tour of farm

Pupils will visit our working organic dairy farm. They will learn how our cows are looked after, what they eat, what they produce and where they live.

Waste sorting

Pupils will be encouraged and helped to sort their lunch leftovers and packaging into the correct bins. There will be discussion about how we can reduce, reuse or recycle our waste.

Links to the Primary Curriculum

The Minibeast Habitats programme contributes to the following curriculum areas:

KS1 and KS2 Science

Living things and their habitats

- identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend upon each other. (Year 2)
- identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including micro-habitats. (Year 2)
- describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food. (Year 2)
- notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults. (Year 2)
- find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air). (Year 2)
- identify that animals including humans, need the right types and amount of nutrition, and that they cannot make their own food, they get nutrition from what they eat. (Year 2)
- explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment. (Year 4)
- recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things. (Year 4)
- recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. (Year 4)

KS1 and KS2 Design and Technology

Cooking and nutrition

- understand where food comes from. (KS1)
- understand seasonality and know where and how a variety of ingredients are grown, reared, caught and processed. (KS2)