



THE
PRINCE'S
FOUNDATION

MAKE A
MINIBEAST
MAGNIFIER

Using household objects, magnify the minibeasts
you find to observe them more closely.

It's Up to Us

A Children's

TERRA CARTA

For Nature, People & Planet



The purpose of this handout is to enable you to find, enlarge and identify the Minibeasts in your surroundings.

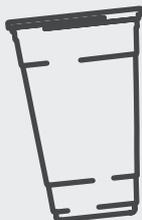
Types of Minibeasts

- ▶ Worms, slugs & Snails
- ▶ Bees & Wasps
- ▶ Butterflies & Moths
- ▶ Flies & Beetles
- ▶ Spiders
- ▶ Woodlice
- ▶ Centipedes & Millipedes



What you will need

- ▶ A plastic cup
- ▶ A rubber band
- ▶ Cling film
- ▶ Scissors
- ▶ Water
- ▶ A Minibeast to look at



STAY SAFE...

- ▶ Wash your hands before and after handling minibeasts!
- ▶ Know how to identify potentially harmful minibeasts like bees or wasps.



STEP 1:

Using a pair of Scissors, carefully cut a hole in the side of your plastic cup, near the bottom.

You'll use this to put your minibeast inside the cup.



STEP 2:

Stretch a piece of cling film over the lip of the plastic cup, make sure it's nice and flat.

This will act as a barrier between the water and the minibeast.



STEP 3:

Place a rubber band around the lip of the cup, ensuring that it is not tight enough to crush the cup.

This will secure the cling film in place.



STEP 4:

Identify and locate a minibeast. Minibeasts can be found almost anywhere. Once you have found one, place it inside the pre cut hole at the bottom of the cup.



STEP 5:

Finally, pour a few drops of water on top of the cling film, so it forms a bubble about the size of a 1p coin.

The water acts as a lens, magnifying the minibeast.



HOW DOES IT WORK?

The surface tension of the water (how water molecules stick together) causes the water to form a bubble on top of the cling film. The shape of the bubble tricks the eye into seeing the object as larger.



MAKE NOTES

And why not start a log book on the different types of Minibeasts identified

WHAT NEXT?

Now you know how to look for and identify Minibeasts, it is time to get imaginative and creative. Mix up your thoughts and ideas and use these to see if there are any other types of Minibeasts that you can identify!

CAN YOU:

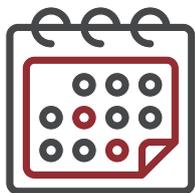


Find each type of Minibeast (13 in total)?
Again, look at all these Minibeasts carefully and identify how they all differ from each other through different features etc.

It's ok to look for bees & wasps but try not to catch them or put them in your microscope as they will sting if scared



Compare two different types of habitat e.g., woodland versus garden. Set a timer and count how many Minibeasts of each type are found in each during a set time. Make a bar graph of your results to compare the two. Did you find different types or numbers of minibeasts in each habitat?



Determine if a Minibeast may be more common at a certain time of the year? Choose a location where Minibeasts are present and carry out a minibeast hunt each season recording your results. **Compare your results, were they what you expected?**

DON'T FORGET TO:

Share your Discoveries on social media using [#DHVirtualClassroom](#)