

Activity 4

THE SCIENCE BIT



Thanks for helping me with my minibeast curiosity challenge. I've been so impressed with all your hard work!

Before we say goodbye, I thought I would share some fun facts about the minibeast world.

MINIBEAST HUNT

Most minibeasts in the UK are insects (six legs), spiders (eight legs), worms (slender creatures with no legs) or arthropods (segmented body with a shell). If you are really struggling to identify a minibeast, share your photo with Winchester Science Centre and the team there will try to help!

You might also like to build yourself a bug hotel and see what else you find!

For a good design to follow, search 'build a bug hotel' at www.rspb.org.uk.



WHAT IS MIMICRY?

Mimicry is when an animal or plant evolves to copy another species or thing from nature.

This could be looks (an orchid mantis), sounds (lyre bird), behaviour (octopus acting as a coconut) or smells (carrion flower).

Minibeasts often mimic other things to avoid a predator. They can do this by hiding or by looking dangerous, for example, looking like something poisonous.



WHY DO BEES LIKE FLOWERS?

Flowers attract bees and other pollinators by using a combination of smells, colour, patterns and shapes.

They also tempt them in with the promise of nectar which bees drink.

To find out more, search 'Why are bees attracted to flowers' on BBC Bitesize.

