

Activities Curriculum Plan for Early Years Foundation Stage - Are all minibeasts scary?

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

- **Adult Led Focus** - Create a class 'mind map' taking into account children's prior learning;
- **Indoor Continuous** - Encourage the children to work together in teams to create minibeast houses in the block/construction area.
- **Outdoor Continuous** - Set up a role play minibeast Investigation Lab (see EAD).
- **Outdoor Continuous** - Hide toy minibeasts around the outdoor area. Encourage the children to work as a team to find them.
- **Outdoor Continuous** - Provide den making materials for children to work together to construct a 'minibeast den'.

Communication & Language

- **Adult Led Focus** - Play a listening and attention game with the children. Place a number of minibeasts on a tray and cover with a blanket. Ask the children to guess how many are there, then double check by counting. Remove one of the minibeasts; can they say which one has been removed?
- **Adult Led Focus** - Play a minibeast sorting game with the children and encourage them to use language to describe the minibeasts.
- **Indoor Continuous** - Have some minibeast role play masks available for the children to act out being different minibeasts.
- **Indoor Continuous** - In the listening area have an audio copy of the book 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' along with a hard copy and related props.
- **Outdoor Continuous** - Create a specially decorated chair with the children. This then becomes a special reading chair for the children to sit and look at non-fiction books about minibeasts.

Physical Development

- **Adult Led Focus** - fine motor development. Activities: Handprint Fly Craft; Paper Bowl; Ladybird Craft; Paper Plate Spider Craft; Incey Wincey Spider Prop Craft; Paper Plate Spider Web with Spider Craft; Paper Bowl Bee Craft; Minibeast Pebbles Craft
- **Adult Led Focus** - physical development activities: Minibeast Movement; Butterfly Playdough; Playdough Caterpillars; Butterfly Movement; Spider Obstacle Course; Worm Spirals.
- **Indoor Continuous** - encourage children to shape and mould minibeast themed models.
- **Indoor Continuous** - Provide minibeast dressing up costumes for the children.
- **Outdoor Continuous** - encourage the children to use tweezers to catch minibeasts in jelly.

Literacy

- **Adult Led Focus** - Introduce the story 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' to the children.
- **Adult Led Focus** - Complete some literacy based activities: Minibeasts Describe It and Find It; minibeasts descriptive sentences; snail trails writing; minibeasts what's in the box; minibeasts what's missing.
- **Indoor Continuous** - In the writing area have minibeast word mats and page borders available and minibeasts shaped paper/booklets available for the children to use.
- **Outdoor Continuous** - Have a selection of writing tools available near the minibeast investigation lab role play area (see EAD), along with paper on clipboards. Provide minibeasts drawing sheets for children to record their findings.

Mathematics

- **Adult Led Focus** - Print out and laminate numbers 0-10/20. Play ordering games, missing number games, matching and counting games etc.
- **Indoor Continuous** - laminate some minibeasts drawing number sheets so that the children can use dry-wipe pens to draw the correct number of features onto the minibeasts.
- **Outdoor Continuous** - Print out minibeast-themed numbers 0-10/20. Ask the children to order them on a washing line outside.

Understand the World

- **Adult Led Focus** - Carry out a minibeasts hunt.
- **Adult Focus** - Watch a Life Cycle of a Butterfly PowerPoint. Give the children opportunity to comment and share their ideas. The children may then be able to complete a butterfly life cycle worksheet, perhaps adding words or sentences.
- **Indoor Continuous** - Create a minibeasts garden small world area, including pretend grass, a selection of natural materials.
- **Outdoor Continuous** - Use minibeasts cut outs to make stick puppets. Then create a small world area using a grassy or muddy area outside, along with pebbles and a mini pond.

Expressive Arts & Design

- **Adult Led Focus** - Carry out some craft activities: The Very Hungry Caterpillar Handprint Craft; Paper Cup Spiders; Spider Web Painting; Pebble Ladybirds; Honeycomb Printing; Fingerprint Minibeasts Garden Craft; Butterfly Handprint Craft
- **Adult Led Focus** - Laminate and make a minibeast nursery rhyme booklet and sing songs from it with the children. **Indoor Continuous** - Have a range of junk modelling available for children to create their own minibeasts houses.
- **Outdoor Continuous** - Create a minibeasts investigation lab role play area, including plastic minibeasts, magnifying glasses and humane insect catchers.