

Growing up wild With Insects and Minibeasts

From beautiful butterflies and dainty ladybirds to slimy slugs and impressive shield bugs, it's time to get outside and track down the many insects and minibeasts that live amongst us.



Ideas for all sections

- [Go on an insect and minibeast safari](#)
- [Build a bug or bee hotel](#)
- Look for hidey-holes and secret spots where minibeasts might live
- Get up close with photography
- [Plant a pollinator friendly garden](#)
- [Make a pooter viewer to investigate insects and minibeasts](#)



Programme links

Rainbows

Bug hunt UMA

Brownies

Find my friend UMA

Guides

Plastic planting UMA

Rangers

Diversify your garden UMA

- Become a bug detective with a magnifying glass or a net
- Follow a snail's slimy path to see where it will lead
- Sing some fun minibeast songs
- Learn about the life cycle of a butterfly
- Go on a spider hunt, can you spot all eight legs in action?
- Plant some wildflower seeds
- Find out why insects and minibeasts are important
- Find out what makes a good home for an insect or minibeast
- Make insects and minibeasts out of recycled materials

Programme links

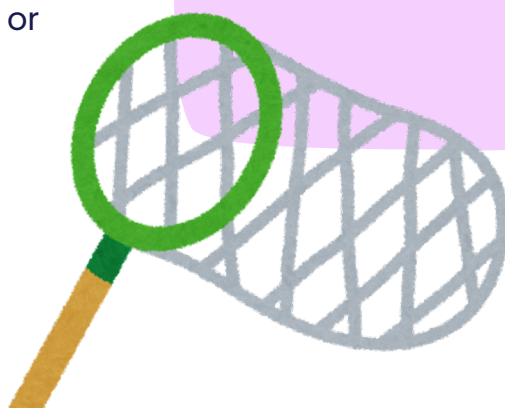
Bug hunt UMA

Chant for change UMA

Diddy Dens UMA

Waggle and Seek UMA

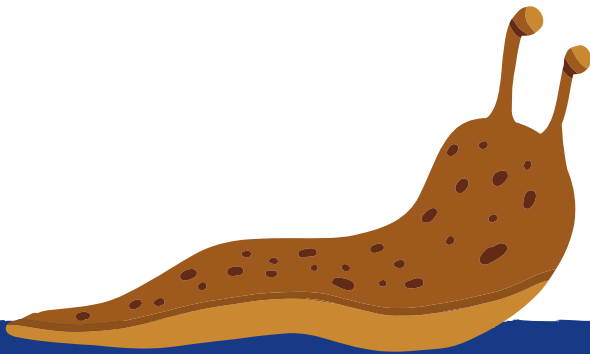
Story trail UMA



- Go on an insect and minibeast hunt and record what you find in a journal
- Build a bug hotel
- Make your own binoculars using cardboard toilet rolls
- Bake Butterfly and bug biscuits
- Leave a banana for the butterflies
- Hunt for spider webs
- Find out why insects and minibeasts are important
- Find out different ways you can help insects and minibeasts
- Identify ladybirds
- Make a tumble trap
- Make a dragonfly or ladybird
- Make a bumblebee nest

Programme links

All creatures great and small UMA
Bottle Mansions UMA
Fix, Frog, Flea UMA
Find my friend UMA
What's my animal UMA
Nature Noises UMA

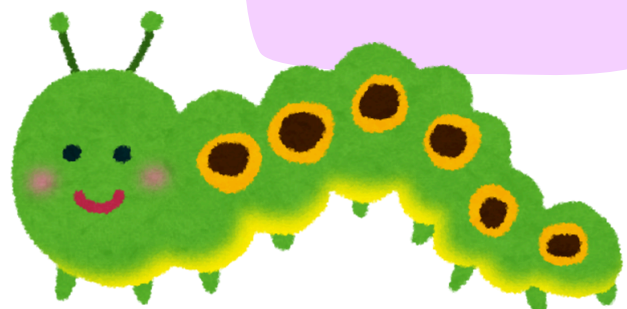


Guides

- Make a bottle bug viewer
- Make your own sweep net
- Make seed bombs and plant a wildflower garden
- Go on an evening adventure to find moths
- Build a moth trap
- Have a minibeast quiz
- Hold a beetle drive
- Bake Butterfly and bug biscuits
- Find out why insects and minibeasts are important to ecosystems and life on earth
- Identify different types of bumblebees
- Grow a butterfly garden
- Make a bumblebee nest
- Make your own nectar bar

Programme links

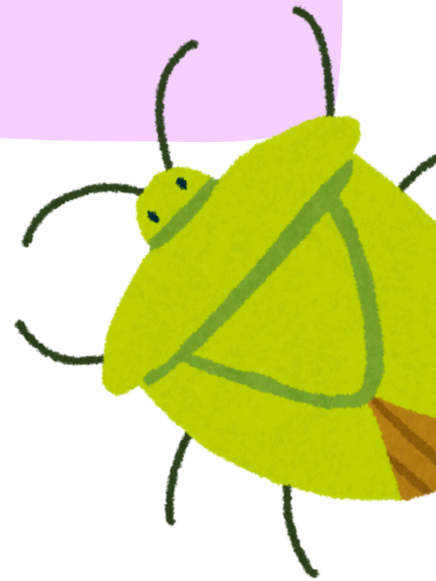
Perfect your Poses UMA
Red vs Grey UMA
Superpower Pairs UMA
Toad on Road UMA
Animal Athletes UMA
Go Wild! UMA
Plastic Planting UMA



- Make a worm paradise with your very own wormery
- Find a patch of grass, sit quietly for 5 minutes, and see how many different insects you can discover
- Go on a nighttime adventure to find moths
- Build a moth trap
- Raise awareness about rewilding spaces to help insects and minibeasts
- Research plants you can grow to give bugs a boost
- Hold a beetle drive
- Bake Butterfly and bug biscuits
- Find out why insects and minibeasts are important to ecosystems and life on earth
- Make a beetle bank
- Make your own nectar bar
- Plant a pollinator friendly garden

Programme links

Sow it Grow it UMA
Animalia Inventions UMA
Clash of Creatures UMA
Diversify your Garden UMA
Converse to Reverse UMA
Land Art UMA

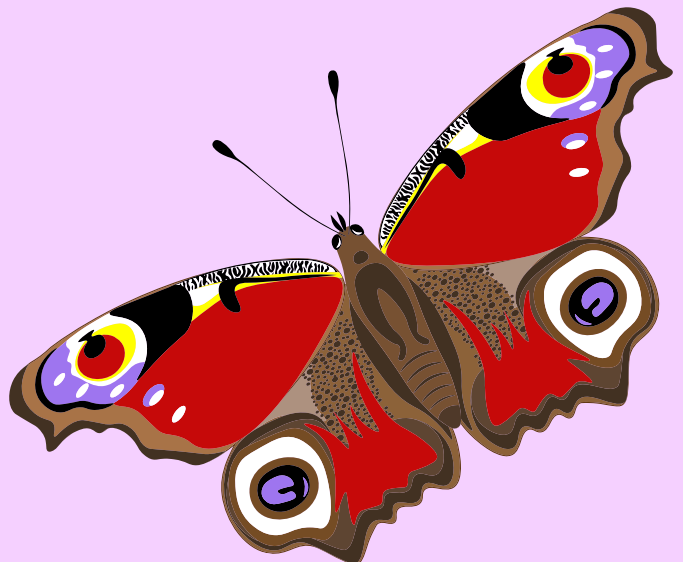


Help the butterflies

By growing the right plants, we can boost the butterfly population!

Different varieties eat different plants, so adult butterflies will only lay their eggs on specific types. Growing a wide range of plants ensures lots of different caterpillars have something to eat.

Here's how to grow caterpillar food and plant a garden for butterflies.



Save the bugs!

Insects and minibeasts may be a little frightening to some people, but they are vital to all life on this planet! They pollinate plants, decompose organic matter, and serve as a food source for countless other species.

Some climate scientists even think that bugs can help us prevent climate change.

So, let's do what we can to help these little critters to thrive! Don't forget to return the creatures you find to their home when you've finished investigating, and try not to disturb their little homes.

Fun facts

- Ants can carry 50 times their body weight! That's like a human lifting a car!
- Ladybugs aren't always red! Some can be yellow, orange, or even black.
- Dragonflies can fly backwards! They have super-fast wings that let them hover and even fly in reverse, making them amazing aerial acrobats.
- Bees can recognize human faces! They're not just smart at finding flowers – they can remember and recognize faces, just like humans.



How did you go wild? Share your story with us!

Write to us:

www.girlguidinglaser.org.uk/volunteers/submit-news

Tag us:

#LaSERGrowingUpWild



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Thank you

Thank you to our team of Queen's Guides who contributed to these resources.