

## Personal Social and Emotional Development

### Self Regulation

Question children as to whether they are scared of mini beasts and why? Which ones do they fear the most? Why do they fear them?

### Managing Self

Role play scenarios about mistreating mini-beasts and discuss what is right and wrong thing to do with small creatures.

### Building Relationships

Circle time – talk and discuss with children about animals and insects that live in our gardens, the environment around us.

Look at books and videos about minibeasts/animals that live in our gardens and parks.

Discuss what we see in the garden and park-not just mini beasts but flowers, birds and other wildlife. as well.

Link to RE and God's wonderful creation.

## Understanding the World

### Past & Present

Discuss memories their memories of interaction with minibeasts

### People, culture & communities

Find out about people who look after insects (entomologists) – YouTube videos

Sing songs about people who live close to nature – in the country

### The Natural World

Find out about life cycles, minibeasts habitats, food that they eat and special features by looking at books and watching videos.

Closely observe minibeasts in the outside environment and **real live caterpillars** which children can watch change into a butterfly.

Make a minibeast menu of favourite foods for different minibeasts

Observe life cycle of caterpillar - butterfly

Draw caterpillars, worms, snails, bees etc.

Make construction models of minibeasts

Binoculars – what do you see?

Nature sounds – Vivaldi The Four Seasons- Summer

Observe real caterpillars changing into butterflies.

Bee bots – map of a garden to move around.

## Expressive Arts and Design

### Creating materials

Make pipe cleaner spiders to sit in webs

Caterpillars out of egg boxes, cardboard rolls, paper plates.

Observation drawings of mini beasts using chalks/charcoal

Cut spiral mobiles inspired by snail shells

Sew a spider's web onto black card

Paint/print symmetrical butterflies

Model dough snails

Make fruit Kebabs/ fruit smoothies/

Construct with Duplo bird boxes

Ladybird/Mad about mini beasts using masks

Vegetable printing. Flower collage/ printing/painting.

### Being imaginative & expressive

Role play scenes in the minibeast garden using masks

Act the story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar/The bad tempered

Sing familiar songs – There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf.

## Communication and Language

### Listening, Attention & understanding

Identification of minibeast – how do you know what it is?

Learn new words many linked to the topic of minibeasts and their classification.

Discuss the sequence and events of a range of stories.

Discussion about how to grow a flower/vegetable and the conditions it needs to grow –sun, air, water and soil. – **including using more complex sentences with and/because**

What do you find in a garden/park?

### Speaking

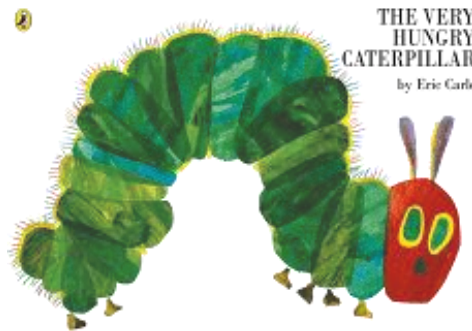
Role play area - Mini beast Garden with a variety of insects for children to explore with magnifiers and bug magnifiers.

Play I spy – minibeast

Encourage children to talk about what they see using open ended questioning and record using microphones.

Interview children using microphone.

## What's in the Garden.



## Physical Development

### Gross Motor skills

Chalk different types of lines on the floor such as straight lines to squiggly lines.

Play dough caterpillars

Play dough gym – 'ants go marching' – squeeze, pich, push, roll and pull.

Green/red Penne pasta to thread – make caterpillars

Cutting opportunities – old food magazines – Hungry caterpillars healthy food plate

### Fine Motor skills

Explore ways of travelling by making pathways-follow skipping ropes to make pathway.

Children can travel forwards, backwards and sideward along these lines.

Create dances to contrast Minibeast movements' e.g. scurrying ants, buzzing bees, slow snails.

. -contrast speeds slow and fast

-contrast flow (smoothness of movement)

-explore directions as various minibeasts

Dance a seed growing into a sunflower

## Literacy

### Comprehension

Texts: The Very Hungry Caterpillar, The bad Tempered Ladybird, Mad about Mini-beasts!

Make a zig-zag book of days of the week and children sequence and talk about what the hungry caterpillar ate on that day.

### Word Reading

Vocab for life cycle-trace, copy, write.

Jolly phonics/ Letters and Sounds-Phrase 1/2/phonics play programmes to support reading and writing.

### White board name writing

### Writing

Make own I spy book

Compose party invitations for the ugly bug ball

Form letters in name correctly using pens, paints, sand, cornflour, shaving foam and gelli baff.

White board alphabet writing and number writing-daily.

Finger alphabet and number writing.

## Mathematics

### Number

How long is the caterpillar? Using unifix cubes.

1 more – add 1 to a number/1 less from a number/count on from a number

Ordering different birds based on size.

### Numerical Patterns

Ladybird spots – addition/doubling numbers 1-6

Measure length of different minibeasts.

Explore symmetry using mirrors

How tall is a flower? – non-standard measurements

Collect information in a survey about favourite minibeasts and count responses – make own tallies

Sort out sets of minibeasts into wings, no wings, fast, slow, patterned, plain

Represent information about favourite minibeasts in a pictogram and analyses results.

## Vocabulary

Minibeasts,  
creatures,  
insect, garden