



Amazing Minibeasts

Subject Area

The Natural World

Topics & Curriculum Links

classification (Science)

life cycles (Science)

minibeasts in the environment (Science; Geography)

senses (Science)

parts of the body (Science)

plants and pollination (Science)

quantities and measurements (Mathematics)

Vocabulary

minibeasts; other animals; parts of the body; senses; food; plants; numbers; places

Grammar

present simple; question forms; imperative; adjectives; prepositions

Teaching Ideas

See also [pages 6–7](#) for general ideas that you can adapt. Or go to www.oup.com/elt/teacher/readanddiscover

Minibeast Life Cycles

After reading Chapter 5, students do research, using books or the Internet, about a minibeast life cycle. They can present their findings in the form of a life cycle diagram, similar to the model on page 13 of the Reader. They can talk or write about the life cycle using the language model on page 33 of the Reader, for example: *The ... lays an egg. A ... comes out of the egg. The ... becomes a ... Then the ... becomes a ...*

A Minibeasts Survey

After completing Project 1, students collect all the minibeast information from the class. They can do this by listening to each student giving their information in turn, or by collecting the class information in a big chart on the board. They then calculate the total number of different minibeasts seen. Finally they make a bar chart showing the number of different types of minibeast seen during the week.

READ & TALK Minibeast Factfiles

After completing Project 2, students choose a minibeast, and do research using books or the Internet. Then they write about their findings and display the information with pictures. They can write about it like this: *It's a / an ... It has ... It's ... It can ... It lives ... It eats ...* Students can then present their animal to the class. Or students can talk about their animal without saying its name, and ask the class to guess the animal.

READ & TALK Mystery Minibeasts

Students choose one of the minibeasts from the Reader. Then students ask the class to guess their mystery minibeast by asking questions like the ones on page 24 of the Reader, for example: *Does it have ... legs? Does its body have sections? Can it ...? Is it [color]?* The student with the mystery minibeast can only answer yes or no to the questions.

Activities Answers

Pages 24–25 1 Insects: grasshopper, fly, bee, ant, beetle; Arachnids: spider, scorpion; Myriapods: millipede, centipede; Annelids: leech, earthworm; Molluscs: snail, slug; 2 1 bee (3) 2 scorpion (4) 3 snail (2) 4 earthworm (1) 3 free answers

Pages 26–27 1 1 head 2 wing 3 leg 4 thorax 5 abdomen 2 bones, cover, grow, small, new 3 1 can 2 don't want 3 Some 4 isn't 5 sometimes 6 can't 4 1 They are black, white, and red. 2 Most insects have three parts. 3 They are called the head, thorax, and abdomen. 4 It comes off. 5 They use their bodies for camouflage.

Pages 28–29 1 1 false 2 true 3 false 4 true 5 true 6 false 2 1 These are antennae. 2 These eyes can see light and dark. 3 These eyes can see things move. 3 1 Insects 2 Insects 3 People 4 Insects 5 Insects 6 People and insects 4 free answers

Pages 30–31 1 moths, ants, bees, grasshoppers, fireflies 2 female, male, female, male, female 3 1 touch 2 dance 3 smell 4 sound 5 light 6 sing 4 1 Moths 2 Fireflies 3 Bees 4 Grasshoppers 5 Ants 5 1 They move their legs up and down to make a singing sound. 2 They make light with their abdomen. 3 They dance to tell other bees where there is food.

Pages 32–33 1 1 earthworm 2 scorpion 3 plants 4 soil 5 butterfly 6 egg 7 ant 8 slug 9 beetle; the secret word is: minibeast 2 1 lay eggs ✓, have live babies X 2 in soil ✓, on plants X 3 on plants ✓, in soil X 4 have live babies ✓, lay eggs X 3 Diagram: egg, pupa; Text: butterfly, eggs, caterpillar, caterpillar, pupa, butterfly, pupa, insect, wings

Pages 34–35 1 1 The leafcutter ants find leaves. 2 They carry the leaves to their nest. 3 Fungus grows. 4 They eat the fungus. 2 1 false 2 false 3 true 4 true 5 true 3 Leafcutter ants: They carry leaves. They find leaves. They eat fungus. Honeybees: They live in a hive. They make honey. They keep honey in honeycombs. Leafcutter ants and honeybees: They are insects. They work together in groups.

Pages 36–37 1 1 dragonfly 2 wasp 3 earthworm 4 snail 5 ant 2 1 ant 2 dragonfly 3 snail 4 wasp 3 1 nests 2 paper 3 saliva 4 queen 5 larvae 4 1 Earthworms and ants live underground. 2 They lay their eggs on leaves in the water. 3 They live in a nest.

Pages 38–39 1 1 liquid 2 poison 3 spider 4 leaves 5 web 6 mice 2 1 All spiders can make silk: true 2 All spiders make webs: false 3 All spiders hunt: false 4 The wolf spider makes a web: false 5 The wolf spider eats mice: true 3 Spiders: two; eight; six or eight; liquid food from insects, mice, and frogs; silk and webs; Insects: three; six; some have two eyes and some also have extra eyes; leaves, fungus, nectar, honey; hives and nests 4 free answers

Pages 40–41 1 1 mosquito 2 ant 3 beetle 4 moth 5 locust 2 1 again and again 2 Some 3 can 4 Mosquitoes 5 Female 6 food crops 3 mosquito 4 free answers

Pages 42–43 1 1 frog 2 bat 3 fish 4 silkworm 5 earthworm 6 bee 2 1 Fish, frogs, and bats eat minibeasts. 2 Silkworms give us silk. 3 Earthworms let air and water into soil. 4 Bees give us honey. 5 Insects move pollen from flower to flower. 3 example answers Problems: They can sting. Some minibeasts can bite. Sometimes the bite is poisonous and can make people sick. Locusts make problems for farmers, because they eat a lot of food crops. Some moths eat clothes and some beetles eat wood. Good things: Bees give us honey. Silkworms give us silk to make silk fabric. Earthworms let air and water in when they move through the soil. Insects move pollen from flower to flower. This is called pollination. 4 1 butterfly 2 fireflies 3 snail 4 wasp 5 leafcutter ant 6 dragonfly 7 scorpion 8 millipede 9 spider 10 mosquito