Mini Beasts – With so much time at home and outdoors we thought we'd set a few activities on Minibeasts!

Watch the link to see what a mini beast is. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LSp_meUwug4

Minibeast Hunt	Make your own Minibeast	Habitats
Mini beast are simply just small animals. Spiders, snails, slugs, beetles, centipedes, worms, earwigs, caterpillars are just a few. Go on a minibeast hunt. There is a checklist in the Files section that you can use. How many can you find? Can you find any more?	**Art and Design** – Make your own Minibeast. Find a pebble that would be a good size for a mini beast. Using materials that you have in the house, make your own minibeast. You could make a ladybird or a spider. Or why not make a large-scale mini beast using art and craft things you may have. Boxes, pipe cleaners, straws, yogurt pots. It can be a giant beast! Or you could also paint or draw one or two minibeasts. What colour are they? How many legs do they have?	Minibeasts live in different places. Worms live in moist soil with lots of dead plant material. Woodlice like damp, dark places and can be found hiding in walls, under stones and in compost heaps. Make a habitat using a water tank or box. Think about what features would be ideal for the habitat and then go on a hunt to collect these features. Collect a few minibeasts to put in your habitat. You will need a fine mesh to go over the box/tank so they don't escape and they can breathe. Don't keep them too long in their homemade habitat. Return them to nature after a wee while so they don't die.
Minibeast Food!	Creepy crawly collage	Sticky Web Science Experiment
Minibeast food! – Try making some minibeast biscuits. You can make the biscuits or it can be a simple as decorating a digestive biscuit with icing and spots! Or use grapes to make caterpillars!	Creepy crawly collage Natural objects make wonderful art materials and they provide a great sensory experience for children too. To make a minibeast collage, collect flower petals, leaves, sticks and feathers. (Never pick wild plants, please only gather what's fallen naturally to the ground.) You can make your creepy crawly on the woodland floor or stick your items onto a piece of card	**You will need: Sticky tape and Cooking oil** **Method:** An experiment to see why spiders don't get stuck in their own webs. 1. Talk to the children about how spiders catch their prey in a web. Explain that it is sticky so that the bugs stick to the web and can't move. 2. So why doesn't a spider stick to its own web? 3. Spread out the tape sticky side up. 4. Ask the children to walk their fingers across the tape. 5. What happens? (Their fingers stick.) 6. That is like the bugs on a spider's web. 7. Now put some cooking oil on the children's fingers and do the same - walk their fingers across the sticky tape. 8. Do their fingers stick now? No! Spiders have oil on their bodies that keeps them from sticking to things.