

# Minibeasts in the Garden or Park

Minibeasts are very small animals. You can find them outside in a garden, a park, a wood or a pond. There are many different kinds of minibeasts.

## Insects

Insects all have six legs. Ants, flies, bees, butterflies and ladybirds are all insects. All of these insects are born from eggs. They are larvae when they hatch, then the larva turns into a pupa and finally out comes an adult.

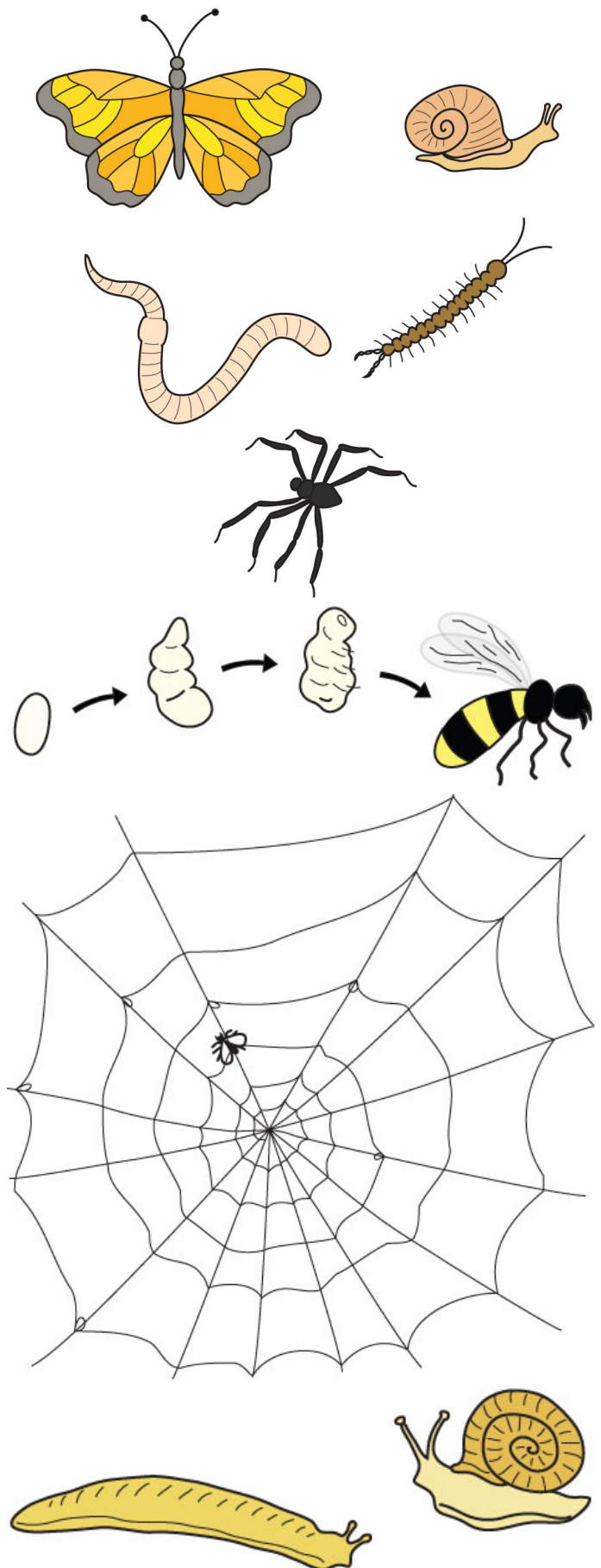
## Spiders

Spiders have eight legs, so they are not insects. Spiders are born from eggs. When the eggs hatch, tiny little spiders come out. Most spiders spin sticky webs. Other minibeasts fly into their webs and can't get off again so the spiders can eat them.

## Slugs and snails

Slugs and snails have no legs, but the bottom side of the body is called the foot. Slugs and snails eat plants. Sometimes, they eat dead plants but they also eat young plants and often kill them. Slugs and snails make a sticky slime. This helps them to slide over rough ground without hurting their foot.

Remember to have an adult nearby if you want to look for minibeasts in a garden or park because some minibeasts sting. After you have looked at the minibeast, you should always let it go.



## Listening Comprehension: Questions and Answers

**Q1:** What is a minibeast?

**A1:** A small animal.

**Strategy:** Ask the children to listen to the beginning of the audio to hear again the opening of the text and to raise their hands when something in the text tells them the answer to the question. Remind them that the answers to 'What' questions are usually found in the text. Also remind them that questions are usually asked in the order in which the answers are found in the text.

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**Q2:** How can you tell if a minibeast is an insect or not?

**A2:** Insects have six legs.

**Strategy:** Ask the children to think about where in the text they are likely to find the answer. Listen again to that part of the text and ask the children to raise their hands when they hear the answer to the question.

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**Q3:** Why should you have an adult with you when you look for minibeasts?

**A3:** Because some minibeasts sting.

**Strategy:** Ask the children to think about where in the text they are likely to find the answer. Listen again to that part of the text and ask the children to raise their hands when they hear the answer to the question. Remind the children that 'Why' questions need to be answered with an explanation. Tell the children that they need to see if there is an answer in the text before they use their own knowledge of the world; if there is an answer in the text, they should use that.

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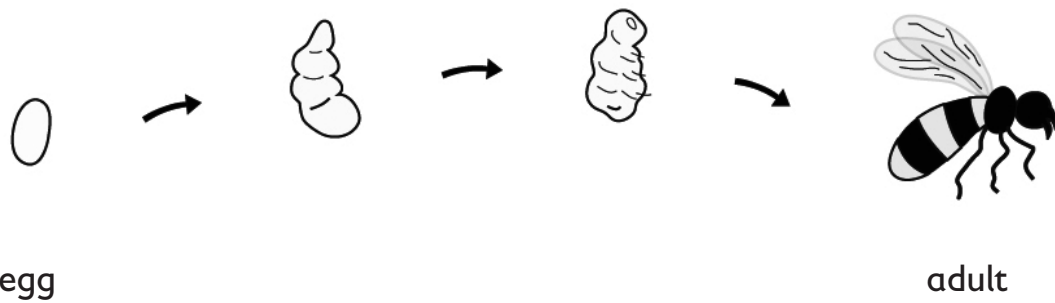
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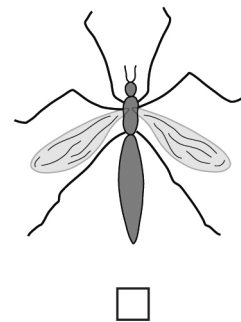
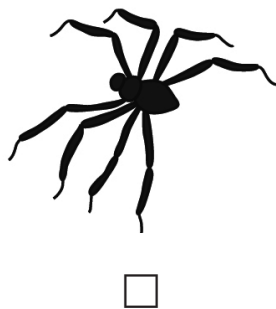
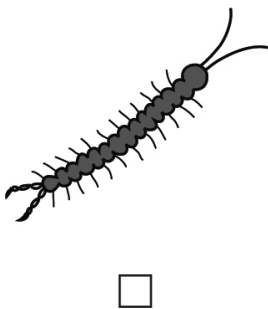
1. Write the names of three insects that live in gardens and parks.

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2. Label these pictures to show how an insect grows.



3. Tick the spider.



4. How do most spiders catch their food?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What is the bottom side of a slug called?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. What helps slugs and snails to slide over rough ground?

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## Teaching text: Minibeasts in the Garden or Park

## Cracking the questions

Question	Answer	Focus	Strategy
1. Write the names of three insects that live in gardens and parks.	Any three of: ants, flies, bees, butterflies, ladybirds.	1b	Where will you look for the answer to this question? Use the headings. Remember the question while you read until you see insect names. Even if you know other insects, if there are answers in the text you should use them.
2. Label these pictures to show how an insect grows.	larva, pupa (correctly labelled)	1b	In texts like this, the information may be in diagrams as well as in the main text. Match the diagrams in the question with those in the text. Add the missing labels.
3. Tick the spider.	Spider picture (with eight legs) ticked.	1c	Where will you look for the answer to this question? Use the headings. Remember the question while you read just the most useful part of the text. In this question, you have to make use of information from the text. What information will help you to tell the difference between a spider and an insect?
4. How do most spiders catch their food?	They spin sticky webs/in webs.	1b	Where will you look for the answer to this question? Use the headings. Remember the question while you read just the most useful part of the text until you see how a spider catches its food.
5. What is the bottom side of a slug called?	The foot.	1b	In texts like this, the information may be in diagrams as well as in the main text. Look at the diagram of the slug and write the word that points to the bottom side.
6. What helps slugs and snails to slide over rough ground?	They make a sticky slime.	1b	Where will you look for the answer to this question? Use the headings. Remember the question while you read just the useful part of the text.