Minibeasts

Minibeasts are small animals that are found in places like gardens, rivers and houses. There are lots of different kinds of minibeast such as spiders, beetles and butterflies. Some minibeasts have lots of legs; some have wings.



In the Garden

There are lots of minibeasts to be found in people's gardens. You might see bees buzzing around the flowers. Bees have yellow and black stripes to show other animals that they can sting.

You could also see butterflies gently flying with their big, colourful wings. You cannot find a baby butterfly because when they are younger, they are caterpillars. The caterpillars eat lots of food, and then build a special cover called a 'chrysalis', which they stay in until they change into butterflies. Butterflies can come in lots of different colours and sizes.

As well as creatures that fly, there are some minibeasts that slide along the ground and up walls. Snails and slugs both have soft bodies and live on the ground. Snails have a hard shell on their backs to keep them safe. Slugs do not have shells. They hide under leaves to keep safe. Slugs are seen as pests as they eat all the plants in people's gardens.

In Ponds and Rivers

Minibeasts don't just live on land but in and around water as well. One insect that lives near the water is the dragonfly. Dragonflies have four wings and long bodies. Some of their bodies can be blue and some are red. They fly very close to the water. They have very big eyes and can see things a long way away.

In Your Home

There are minibeasts that live in people's homes as well. Spiders are often found inside houses and flats. They find small cracks and crawl inside to make webs and lay eggs. In the UK, spiders are not dangerous to people but people are often afraid of them.