



Minibeasts are a group of small **creatures** known as **invertebrates**. There are hundreds and thousands of minibeasts all around us, such as spiders, beetles, snails, worms and butterflies. In fact, there are around 25,000 different types living in the UK.



Some minibeasts have a long body and lots of legs, such as caterpillars and millipedes. Some have wings, such as butterflies and bees, while others make **slime** to move underground, such as earthworms. Some minibeasts are coloured so that they can **camouflage** on leaves and branches.

Did you know?

A peacock butterfly has **adapted** eye-shaped patterns on its wings to trick **predators** who might want to eat it.



Minibeasts can be found in many different **habitats** - under logs and rocks, in soil, in piles of leaves, grass, bushes and even in tiny cracks in walls.

Many minibeasts live in ponds and rivers. These creatures can spend their lives in or near water. They start their lives as **larvae** born in water and they grow to be able to fly or live on land. Dragonflies are often found near ponds.



Glossary

invertebrates - a creature with no backbone

adapted - changed over time

predators - animals that hunt and eat other animals for food



At the bottom of the text there is a **glossary** which tells you the meaning of specific **vocabulary** that you have read.

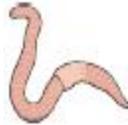
Words that can be found in the glossary are written in **bold**.

You are going to create your own glossary using important vocabulary related to minibeasts.

There are some words in bold in the text to get you started but you can add your own words in too.



Word	Definition
creatures	an animal
larvae	the young of an insect before metamorphosis
slime	thick and slippery liquid substance
camouflage	the natural colouring or form of an animal which enables it to blend in with its surroundings
habitats	the natural homes or environments of an animal or plant



Verbs are mainly the 'doing' words (actions) or the 'being' words.

'doing' verbs: run, dribble, write, drink, fetch, carry

'being' verbs: is, was, were, am

Verbs can also be used for something **happening**:

e.g. The film started at 6 o'clock.

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/to-identify-and-use-powerful-verbs-and-adverbs>

When writing, make sure that every sentence includes a verb.
Choose an appropriate verb to complete these sentences.

A

The dog chased the cat.

The children were tired after the long walk.

The rain finally finished at three o'clock.

The lift stopped and lots of people got out.

There was so much rain last night that the river flooded.

Write your own sentence containing a verb.

Read the sentences below and circle the verb in each of them. Then write if the verbs are examples of 'doing', 'being' or 'happening'.

B

sentence	type of verb
Dean <u>ran</u> in the race.	doing
The building <u>shook</u> during the earthquake.	doing
Jessica <u>is</u> a cheeky monkey!	being
The monster <u>roared</u> from the rooftop.	doing
The race <u>finished</u> at 12 o'clock.	happening
The guinea pig <u>was</u> thirsty.	being

Some verbs are more adventurous to use in your writing than others. How many synonyms (words that have the same meaning) can you think of for the verbs below?

C

walk	run	eat	say
stroll step March wander	sprint canter gallop	munch taste chomp consume gobble	whisper declare speak exclaim

Create your own sentences, using the different types of verbs.
Can you use all three types of verb in the same sentence?

Our spelling words for this week are:

beautiful	because	children	Christmas	clothes
everybody	father	improve	parents	people

Writing challenge

In Science, we have been learning about living things. When you were in Reception, you read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle. To remind yourself of the story, click here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75NQK-Sm1YY>



You are going to write a story about a living thing in the style of Eric Carle. You could write about 'The Very Hungry Grasshopper' or 'The Very Hungry Snail', it's up to you! Use this writing frame to plan your story.

The very hungry _____

In the light of the moon ...

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

Two weeks later...

