

Beast Creator**What should I already know?**

- To compare, sort and group living things in a variety of ways based on observable features and behaviour.
- Humans can affect habitats in negative ways such as pollution and land development or positive ways such as garden ponds, bird boxes and wild flower areas.
- Scientists classify living things according to shared characteristics, animals can be divided into 6 main groups: mammals, reptiles, amphibians, birds, fish and invertebrate.

Linked Science knowledge for the topic**Do we slow down as we get older?**

- Humans go through characteristic stages as they develop towards old age. These stages include baby, infant, toddler, child, adolescent, young adult, adult and senior citizen. Puberty is the transition between childhood and adulthood.
- Data can be recorded and displayed in different ways, including tables, bar and line charts, classification keys and labelled diagrams.
- The results are information, such as measurements or observations, that have been collected during an investigation. A conclusion is an explanation of what has been discovered using evidence collected.

Vocabulary

Antennae	A pair of long, thin sensors attached to the head of an arthropod.
Consumer	A person or animal that eats something in a food chain.
Exoskeleton	A hard outer layer that supports and protects an animals body.
Habitat	The environment where an animal lives.
Invertebrate	An animal with no spine.
Metamorphosis	A process by which an animal's body changes structure.
Mandible	A mouth part that grasps and cuts.
Microhabitat	A smaller place or environment where a living thing lives.
Organism	A living thing such as a plant, animal, bacteria or virus.
Producer	A living thing that can make its own food using energy from the Sun.
Predator	An animal that kills and eats other animals.

By the end of the topic we will be able to...

Create a super mini-beast to exterminate aphids using selective breeding.

What is a minibeast?

A minibeast is a small animal without a spine. The scientific name for an animal without a spine is invertebrate. To protect their soft bodies, some minibeasts have developed a hard, outer shell. This is called an exoskeleton.

Habitats

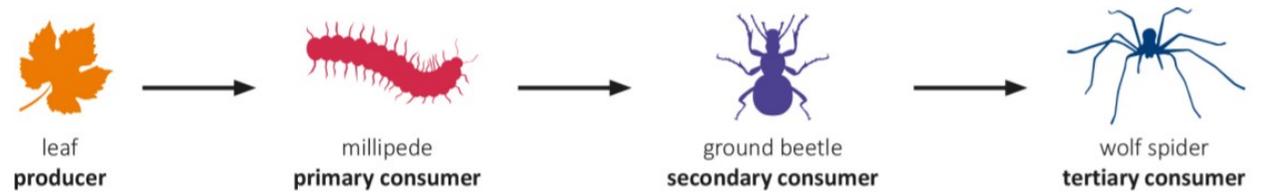
Minibeasts live in different habitats all over the world. Many minibeasts live in microhabitats, such as rock pools, bushes, under logs and among leaf litter. These microhabitats provide food, shelter and protection. Some minibeasts create their own homes. Bees create a honeycomb to store food and raise young. Wasps make nests from chewed wood and saliva.

Protection

Many minibeasts have developed ways to protect themselves from predators. Some use warning colours, camouflage, mimicry or play dead. Others have developed stings, bites, sprays or give off an odour as a form of defence,

Food chains and food webs

Food chains show where living things get their energy. Food chains start with a producer than makes its own food. Anything that eats another living thing is a consumer. A food web shows how several food chains are interconnected.



Classifying invertebrates

There are thousands of invertebrate species all over the world that come in a variety of shapes, sizes and colours.

