

# The Knowledge

Supporting the National Curriculum



Ardleigh Green Learning Federation

Wriggle and Crawl



Year 2

Working Together, Learning Together, Growing Together

Knowing More

Remembering More

Learning More

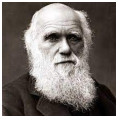
## Key People



**Carl Linnaeus**—Swedish scientist who studied plants.



**Mary Anning**— British scientist who hunted fossils.



**Charles Darwin**—English naturalist who studied how animals can change and evolve.

## Key Dates for Nature!

- World Day for Water—22nd March
- European Day of Parks—24th May
- World Environment Day—5th June
- National Insect Week—20th June
- The Big Butterfly Count—14th July
- World Habitat Day—3rd October
- Feed the birds day—28th October
- National Tree Week—25th November

## Key Facts

1. Invertebrates make up approximately 97% of the creatures living on Earth.
2. Minibeasts are a great source of protein. Many countries eat insects as part of their diet as they are a very sustainable source of food and may become more widely eaten in the future.
3. The colour and appearance of minibeasts are key to their survival. Many minibeasts have very good camouflage, blending them into their environment so that they can hide from predators or creep up on prey.
4. Most minibeasts tend to use their senses of smell, touch and taste to experience the world around them, rather than their sight or hearing. They use features such as antennae or small hairs to do this.
5. Minibeasts are crucial for our survival: they recycle dead matter and waste products and help with plant pollination.
6. Some minibeasts produce products which humans use. Honey is a well-known product from bees, but we also get wax from them. Beeswax is used to make candles and to polish wood. Silk comes from silk worms.
7. Minibeasts make their homes in lots of places, both inside our homes (spiders) and outside under logs, stones or leaves, in ponds, in trees, in grass and in soil.
8. Some minibeasts eat plants or flower nectar; others eat other minibeasts!
9. Invertebrates have been living on our planet for about 550 million years!

## Key Vocabulary

1. **Minibeast**—Minibeasts are invertebrates – they are creatures without backbones. So that includes insects, spiders, beetles, snails, worms, centipedes... the list goes on
2. **Invertebrate**— Invertebrates are animals without a backbone or bony skeleton
3. **Exoskeleton**—the external (outside) skeleton that protects their body.
4. **Habitat**—the natural home or environment of an animal or plant.
5. **Antennae**—one pair of long, sensory organs (like stick!) on an insects head.
6. **Pollination**—moving pollen from flowers to another place.
7. **Camouflage**—the colour or shape of an animal changing so it blends into it's surroundings.
8. **Colony**—a group of animals, plants or insects that are all the same and are together.
9. **Thorax**—middle of an insects body between it's head and abdomen.
10. **Abdomen**—the end of an insect's body.

## Test Yourself

1. Can you name 5 Minibeasts and their choice of habitat?
2. What are the important rules of a Minibeast hunt?
3. Can you name the life cycle of a frog?
4. List 3 facts about honeybees.
5. Can you design, make and evaluate a Minibeast hotel to use at home?
6. Can you identify human and physical features?
7. Can you sketch your favourite Minibeast?
8. Can you peel, chop and grate foods to prepare a tasty snack?
9. What is an invertebrate?
10. Can you name an animal that has an exoskeleton?

## Texts to read

