Which minibeasts can you see?

Look out for these minibeasts and see how many different types you can see. Some will be harder to spot than others.

Slug

Slugs are found in lots of different habitats and eat plants, decaying matter, fungi and earthworms. They provide food for species such as Hedgehogs, Foxes, Badgers, Slow Worms, frogs and many birds.

Earthworm

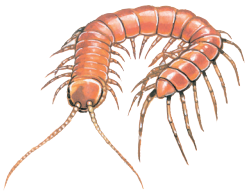
They usually live in the top few centimetres of the soil and are vital in maintaining its quality. They eat decaying organic matter and are a food source for many animals including Hedgehogs, birds, Foxes, frogs and toads.

Earwig

Earwigs are generally nocturnal, and seek out dark crevices to rest in during the day. They are omnivores, eating both plant matter and small invertebrates. Despite their name, don't worry - earwigs are unikely to venture into a Human ear!

Centipede

Centipedes live under rocks, in the soil, dead wood and in compost heaps. They're predators and eat other invertebrates, which they catch using specially adapted front legs containing venom.



Woodlouse

Search for woodlice in dark, damp places such as compost heaps or under logs. They feed on dead and decaying matter, making them important for nutrient cycling.

Garden Spider

They are completely harmless to Humans but excellent predators of flying insects. They spin orb webs, sit in the centre and wait to feel the vibrations of trapped prey. They then wrap them in silk and deliver a venomous bite.

Ant

Ants are common in many habitats, and you often find them in gardens creating nests under paving slabs. Similar to earthwoms, they play an important role in mixing the soil so air and water can reach plant roots.

Devil's Coach Horse

They're nocturnal predators eating animals such as worms, slugs and other invertebrates. After a night of hunting, they spend the day resting in leaf litter, compost heaps or under stones. They can bite, so don't attempt to handle them.

Harvestman

Although it looks like a long-legged spider, it's not one and can't spin a web. Harvestmen eat dead organic matter and invertebrates, which they catch using hooks at the end of their legs.

The RSPB is a registered charity in England & Wales 207076, in Scotland SC037654. ID Posters 2023.

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