

# Minibeast maths

Using mathematical language and counting to investigate minibeasts found in a local area

## EYFS

**Early learning goals:** Communication and language, Mathematics, Understanding the world

**Activity type:** individual/ small group with an adult

**Length of activity:** 20 minutes

**Outdoor requirements:** playground with raised beds/logs or local park

**Resources:** magnifying pots, laminated shapes or blocks, drawing/painting materials

### Starter activity

Give each child a pot with a magnifying glass and ask them to collect one minibeast into their pot. Make sure that logs are put back in the same place.



### Main activities

In small groups, give children some minibeast maths challenges:

1. How many legs have they got? Put the animals into groups depending on their number of legs (no legs/6 legs/lots of legs).
2. Which animal is biggest/smallest? Longest/shortest?
3. What shape is your animal? Match it up to some laminated shapes or blocks.
4. Put the animal back onto the ground in the area where they found it. Does it move fast or slow? Count together how long it takes until the animal disappears.

### Plenary activity

Paint or draw the animal making sure that it has the correct number of legs.

### Specific risk assessment

Take care when turning over large logs.  
Don't let children collect bees/wasps/red ants.