



Minibeast Scavenger Hunt

Use the checklist to find and observe bugs, slugs and other “minibeasts” in your backyard or park. The goal is to find them, not to disturb them! Be careful where you step and remember: Every creature has an important role to play in our ecosystem.

Materials: checklist, pencil, clipboard

Directions:

Head outside to your backyard or park to look for bugs, slugs, worms and flying insects. See how many you can find on the next page. Add “field notes” to write down what you observe the creature doing and where you found them. If you see where they might live, describe that or draw a picture.

Add any other interesting critters you see and draw a picture of them.



There are about 5,000 different species of ladybugs in the world.

Parent Tip

Helping children overcome their fear of insects is crucial to enjoying the great outdoors. As kids (and adults) are empowered with knowledge about creatures like insects and worms, they can better see them as a crucial part of our ecosystems. Learn about their roles as pollinators and garden helpers. Think about your own reactions when you encounter a bug. Be patient and calm when kids encounter an insect they find scary, but then make a point of learning more about that creature together.



Dragonflies have been on earth for 300 million years.

Earthworms have five hearts!



About 80% of the Earth's animals are insects.



Butterflies taste with their feet.



Slugs and snails are known as gastropods, which means “stomach foot.” The foot located on the stomach is how they move around.



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Can you find any of the "minibeasts" below? Write down what you observe the creature doing and where you found them. If you see where they might live, describe that or draw a picture. Add any other interesting critters you see and draw a picture of them.




























