Darwin



What would Darwin do?

Charles Darwin was a young British naturalist. He became famous for his work on evolution. Evolution is how species change and adapt over time. During his lifetime, he observed lots of different animals and plants in different habitats. If Darwin was alive today and visited your garden he would go on a minibeast hunt! Can you go for him?

Step 1: What equipment do you need?

Minibeast Identification Key (available online)

Small tub

Teaspoon

Soil, leaves and twigs

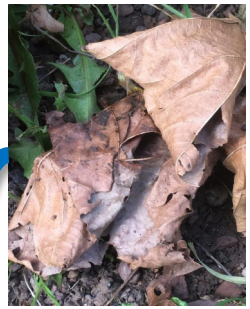


There are lots of places to find minibeasts in your garden. They will be hiding in their habitats. A habitat is the place where an animal lives. Minibeasts often like dark, damp places. Can you think of any dark, damp places in your garden?

Step 2: Make the tub a habitat for the minibeasts using soil, leaves and twigs.



Step 3: Search in these habitats and other dark, damp places. What minibeasts can you see? Remember to leave the habitat as you found it.


Under Leaves


Long grass


Under stones





Step 4: Work carefully, use the spoon to place what you find in your tub for a closer look. Can you find out the names using the Minibeast Identification Key?

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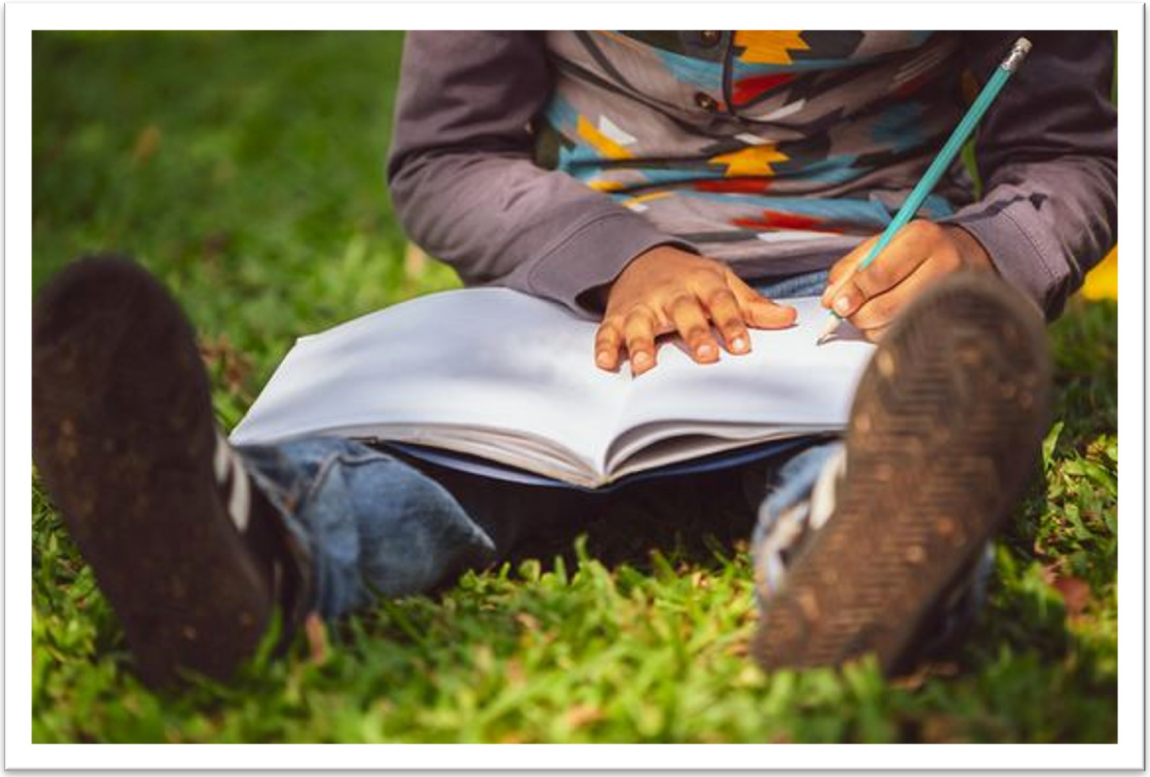
Darwin



What would Darwin do?

Darwin would write field notes so there was record of what he did and saw on his minibeast hunt. Your task is to create a page of field notes about your Minibeast hunt. You can include any drawings or descriptions about what thought were the most important parts of your Minibeast hunt. Below are some ideas to help:

- The date of your minibeast hunt.
- A description of what the weather was doing.
- A list of the equipment you used.
- A sketch map of where you searched in your garden.
- A list of species you found.
- A drawing of a minibeast habitat.
- A drawing of your favourite species. You could use the internet research



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