Name _____ Date _____

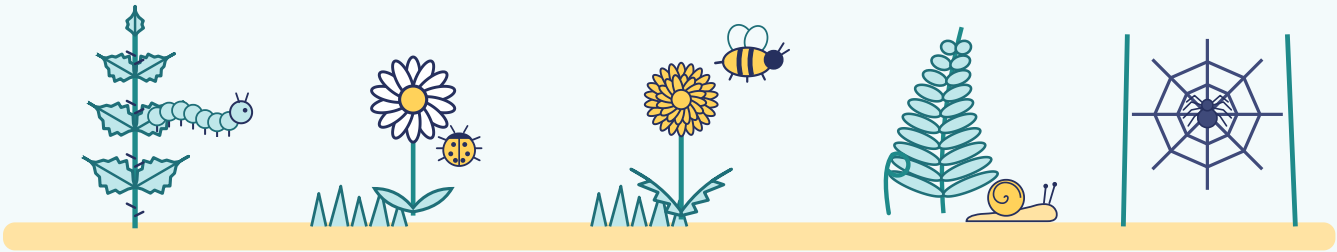
Bugs on plants

Leaves, stems and flowers are homes for lots of minibeasts.

1 Learn



Plants are homes too! A leaf, a stem or a flower can be a **microhabitat** for minibeasts.



nettle	daisy	dandelion	fern	web
caterpillar	**ladybird**	**bee**	**snail**	**spider**

Name that plant: look for the clues.



Daisy

- white petals round a yellow middle
- grows low in short grass



Dandelion

- lots of thin yellow petals
- leaves with jagged edges
- turns into a fluffy clock



Nettle

- pointed leaves with jagged edges
- tiny hairs that sting: **look, don't touch!**

Flip's tip: moss or fern? **Moss** is low and soft, like a tiny green cushion. A **fern** has big, feathery leaves that uncurl.

Warm up: which minibeast visits flowers? Ring it.





Grown-ups: read Flip's words aloud. In the picture, name each plant, then the minibeast living on it.

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2 Try it together a child and a grown-up, about 10 minutes



Tap and look

You need: a bush or a leafy plant outside, a sheet of white paper or a pale plate, a pencil and this sheet.

1. Hold the paper or plate under a branch. **Gently tap** the branch three times.
2. Look at what lands. Name the minibeasts you know, then tip them gently back under the plant.
3. Now look **on top of leaves**, **under leaves** and **inside flowers**. Look, don't touch.
4. Write or draw what you find.

Our plant was a: _____

Where we looked	Minibeasts we found
tapped onto the paper	
on top of leaves	
under leaves	
inside flowers	

Grown-ups: choose a plant with no stings or prickles (not nettles, holly or roses). Ask "Why might minibeasts hide under leaves?" (It's shady and damp, and birds can't see them.)

3 Practise

A. Name each plant. Use the words in the box.

daisy | dandelion | nettle | moss | fern


_____


_____


_____


_____


_____

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B. Where does each minibeast live? Draw a line to match them.



bee ●



caterpillar ●



spider ●

● in a web 

● on a flower 

● munching a nettle leaf 

C. Ring the right name.



moss fern



daisy dandelion



moss fern



daisy dandelion

D. Draw a minibeast on this flower. Write its name.



It is a _____

Challenge

Sam finds soft, green moss on a log. He says, "It's a tiny fern!" Is he right? How can you tell?

_____

_____

_____

I can… Tick when you can.

- ☐ name minibeasts that live on leaves and flowers
- ☐ name a daisy, a dandelion and a nettle
- ☐ tell moss from a fern