

## Minibeast Nursery Rhymes

(half day)

Early Years

| Summary of Day   |   |
|--|---|
| Linking some of our favourite nursery rhymes to activities about minibeasts. We will go digging to look for worms, hunt for ladybirds, caterpillars and ants in the meadow and pretend to be bees from the beehives.   |   |
| Learning objectives  |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children will become familiar with and recall a variety of rhymes about minibeasts.</li> <li>• Children will be able to identify some of the minibeasts</li> <li>• Children will treat animals in the environment with care and sensitivity.</li> <li>• Children will develop an interest and curiosity by exploring their surroundings.</li> </ul> |   |
| Prior Learning   |   |
| No prior learning is essential for children to take part in this day.  |   |
| To maximise children's learning during their visit, it would be beneficial for them to be familiar with some rhymes about minibeasts.  |   |
| Example outline of the day   |   |
| <b>Approx 10 am</b>  | Arrive / Introduction to Gatton Park / Safety talk  |
| <b>10.15 – 10.35</b>   | Introduce rhymes on a minibeast theme including 'Incy, Wincy Spider', 'Ladybird, ladybird', 'Wiggly Woo', 'Here is the beehive', 'Arabella Miller'. Talk about where they could be found.   |
| <b>10.35 – 11.35</b>   | Go out to flower beds outside the cabin. Use dental mirrors to search for mini beasts.<br>Walk under dry arch to meadow area. Use sweep nets to look for mini beasts.<br>Create a background for a minibeast picture in their groups.<br>Return to cabin, search mini beast area, under pots and mats. Look at leaf litter in 'tuff spots'. |
| <b>11.35 – 12.00</b>   | Make minibeasts, using natural materials.   |

## Assessment Opportunities

Gatton Staff will assess progress throughout the day by open ended questioning and plenary session.

- Can the children recall and join in with some of the minibeast rhymes?
- Can the children identify some of the minibeasts found?
- Have the children treated animals with care and sensitivity?
- Have the children shown an interest and curiosity by exploring their surroundings?

## Information for the group leader

- Outdoor clothing & sturdy footwear / wellies are advised
- Please note that due to the nature of the study site, adjustments may need to be made to this programme for those visitors who use a wheelchair or have limited mobility. Please contact the Centre to discuss alternatives.
- Please note this day will go ahead in most weather conditions. However alternative bad weather activities are available at the Centre if necessary.
- Centre Risk Assessments are available for those who come on a pre visit; these may be used to write your own risk assessments in accordance with your school's requirements.

## Post Visit learning opportunities

- Go for minibeast hunt outside at school
- Role play – make a bug den using boxes
- Watching life cycles – butterflies
- Circle time – caring for creatures and their habitats
- Sorting pictures of minibeasts using different criteria

## Differentiation

- Adults to encourage participation and give support as appropriate
- Specific adjustments can be made to suit individual needs in conjunction with the class teacher

## Access

- Large worksheets can be provided with prior notice.
- Different learning styles considered throughout the day.
- Please inform us in advance if any of your students have limited mobility.

## Adult Participation

- Adults to encourage participation and give support as appropriate during practical tasks.

## Resources

All resources for the day are provided by Gatton Park, including:

- Equipment
- Materials