

Girlguiding Scotland

Out and About

Wee Beastie Challenge 2021



Welcome to our 2021 Out and About Challenge!

This year, we've developed a new resource all about wee beasties, bugs, creepy crawlies, critters - whatever you like to call them!

You can do this challenge with your unit, with friends (subject to your current restrictions) or you can complete it with your family but let your unit leader know first.

Some things to think about before you get started:

Dress for the weather. Remember a jacket and a warm hat in case the weather changes. When you are on a wee beastie hunt remember to put back any sticks and stones you move as this is the wee beastie's home.

Avoid touching the wee beastie to prevent hurting or damaging it.

Some wee beasties have ways to protect themselves from predators. Some of them can make you itchy or some can sting. Always look at your wee beasties from a safe distance. If you want to look at them closer and it's safe to do so, use a leaf or a piece of grass to encourage them into a clear plastic pot. If you are unsure if it is safe, check with your leader or an adult.

Don't keep your wee beastie longer than you need to and always put them back where you found them.

The Challenge

Go on a wee beastie hunt and see what beasties you can find. For hints on how to find bugs have a look on the Woodland Trust's website: [Minibeast Hunt - Tips for Finding Bugs](#). There are around 27,000 different species and even experts sometimes find it difficult to identify them!

There are some useful guides on the [Insect Week](#) website too.

Badge

To achieve the badge, please complete one activity from the Discover section, one from Action and one other activity from either section. You can buy your badge from the [Girlguiding Scotland online shop](#).





Discover

- Identify any of the beasts you spotted and find out some interesting facts about them. Show what you've found out in an interesting way, like a drawing, a video or a poster.
- Record how many of each wee beastie you find.
- Find out what wee beasties you can find in an area. Compare the wee beasties you find in two different places. This could be in your garden or park, in a forest, in a field, a pond or another outdoor space.
- Choose one, two or three of the wee beasties you have found and find out some interesting facts about them. e.g. their lifecycle, where they live, why they are useful to us.
- With a group create an interdependence web or chain to show how your wee beastie has an important place in our lives.
- Each of us have superpowers and wee beasties have superpowers too. Find out about the superpowers of one of your wee beasties and make a Top Trump card. If your friends or family also choose a wee beastie can you play a game to find out which wee beastie is oldest, fastest, biggest, strongest
- Find out what No Mow May is about and find an area near to you where you can watch wee beasties during May.

Action!

- Create a space for wee beasties. This could be in your garden, a patio or balcony or another outdoor space.
- Grow some plants for wee beasties. This could be a garden plant or bush, wildflowers or a sunflower.
- Build a shelter for wee beasties. Some wee beasties live on the ground so you could create a wee beastie camp site or luxury hotel.
- Create a feeder for your wee beastie. Could you create a wee beastie restaurant? Start by providing some fresh water. A shallow container with stones is best. You could add a butterfly feeder.

Now watch your plants, homes and/or feeder and see who visits.

- Take part in [Insect Week](#) from 21-27 June or in the [Big Butterfly Count](#) which usually takes place at the end of July.

Once you've finished

When you have completed the challenge, you could tell your unit or a friend/family member about the amazing facts you have discovered and why wee beasties are important to us. Don't forget to take photos of the wee beasties you have found or the spaces you have created for them - you could also share your photos with us (if you are old enough) on Instagram or Twitter @GirlguidingScot.

Useful websites

[British Dragonfly Society - British Dragonfly Society \(british-dragonflies.org.uk\)](#)

[UK's Largest Woodland Conservation Charity - Woodland Trust](#)

[Nature Detectives - Woodland Trust](#)

[Insect Week](#)

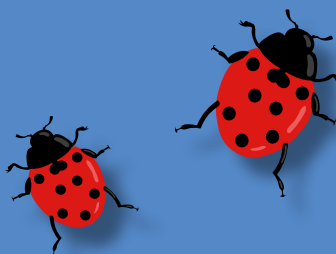
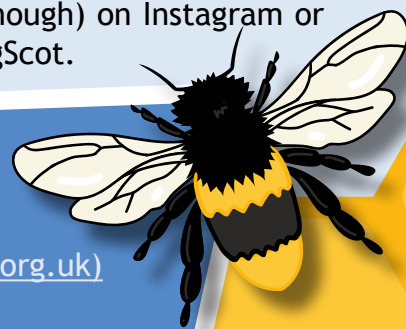
[RSPB guides on birds and wildlife](#)

[Buglife | Help Buglife save the planet](#)

[Factsheets & guides | The Bug Farm](#)

[Bumblebee Conservation Trust](#)

[Butterflies \(butterfly-conservation.org\)](#)



Scotland



WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

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