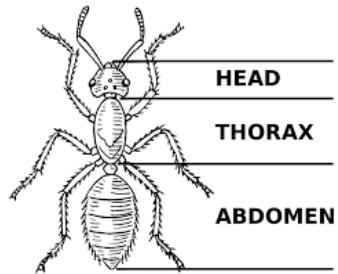


Minibeasts 1

What are insects?

- An insect has 3 parts: a HEAD, a THORAX and an ABDOMEN



- All insects have 6 legs
- On the head there are 2 EYES and 2 FEELERS.
- There are breathing holes along both sides of the abdomen.
- Most insects have WINGS. These are joined at the thorax.

Draw a large diagram of an insect and label the parts.

Make a list of all the insects you know and draw them.

Write down which of these are NOT insects.

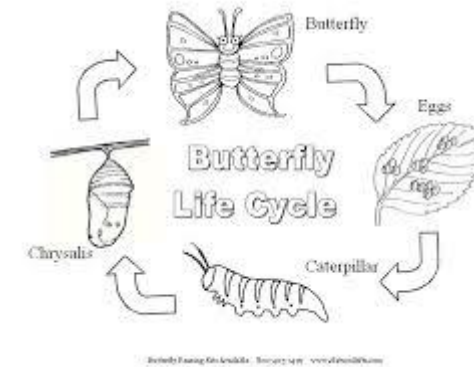
- butterfly
- snail
- ant
- worm

Minibeasts 2

Butterflies are insects.

Draw the life cycle of a butterfly.

A butterfly's lifecycle is made up of four parts: egg, larva (caterpillars), pupa (chrysalis) and adult butterfly.



Butterflies attach their eggs to leaves with a special glue.

Most caterpillars are plant eaters (herbivores).

Fully grown caterpillars attach themselves to a twig or leaf. Then they shed their outside layer of skin. The hard skin underneath is called a chrysalis.

After some time, an adult butterfly will come out from the chrysalis.

Butterflies have four wings.

Most butterflies feed on nectar from flowers. They taste through their feet!

Minibeasts 3

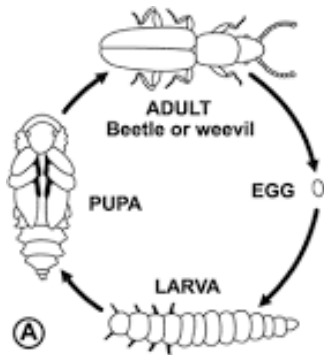
Beetles are insects.

Beetles come in a lot of colors. They can have stripes or spots.

Beetles live everywhere – from hot deserts to the polar ice caps.

Most beetles have protective defenses to defend themselves against predators. Some squirt out acid and some are poisonous.

Beetles start as eggs and hatch into larvae. The larvae look like little worms. They're sometimes called grubs. Later, beetles enter a pupa stage and become adult beetles.



Draw some beetles that you have seen. Write 3 facts about beetles

Minibeasts 4

Moths are insects

What's the difference between butterflies and moths?

Butterflies are usually more colorful and larger, though not always.

Butterflies have rounded knobs or clubs at the ends of their antennae. Moths do not. Moths have feathered antennae.

Moths are often nocturnal. Butterflies appear during the day.

A moth's wings are spread out when at rest. A butterfly's wings are straight up and together when resting.

Moths have a thick body. Butterflies have a thin body.

Draw two pictures to show the difference between a moth and a butterfly.



Minibeasts 5

Spiders are not insects

What is a spider?

- an animal
- a mini-beast with 8 legs

What is special about a spider's body?

- Two parts: head and chest together as one part; the stomach is the other part
- Spiders do not have backbones but a hard covering.

Why do spiders bite?

- to kill the insects they catch

Why do spiders spin webs?

- to catch insects

How do spiders spin webs?

- They have silk that comes from tiny holes at the tail end.

Do all spiders spin webs?

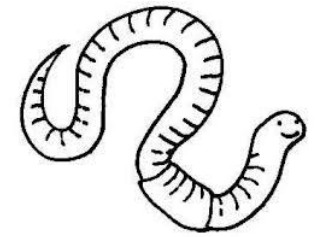
- No. Some have holes in the ground with a trap door at the top.

What kinds of spiders live in your area?

Are any of them poisonous to humans?

Minibeasts 6

Earthworms are not insects



What job does the earthworm do for us?

- breaks up the soil to help our plants grow
- makes little tunnels under the soil so that the plant roots can get air

An earthworm has no eyes, ears or feelers so how does it know when there is danger about?

- feels vibrations in the earth

How does an earthworm move?

- uses bristles on his body to help it wriggle along
- stretches out long and thin, then shrinks again

What is special about an earthworm's body?

- made up of 16 sections
- has five hearts (in sections 7,8,9,10,11)

What does an earthworm eat?

- soil that has dead plants in it (compost)

How does an earthworm produce babies?

- lays eggs in a cocoon around its middle

What colours are earthworms?

- red or grey

