



High Weald Hero Activity Card

Minibeast Natural Sculpture



Location: Woodland

Time: 30 minutes

Equipment: Magnifying pots, plastic cutlery, identification chart

Audience: KS1 & 2

A good way to encourage a close and detailed look at minibeasts

Activity Description: Allow children to have a good rummage around the woodland floor, for example under leaves, logs, stones and inside bark crevices on trees, to see what minibeasts can be found. Allow lots of time for finding and examining them. In small groups, children choose a minibeast and create a sculpture from natural materials, taking note of the number of legs, body segments, antennae etc. Give it an imaginative name - then use a simple minibeast identification guide to determine its proper name. Ensure minibeasts are safely released at the end of the activity.



High Weald Teaching Point: Almost a third of the High Weald is woodland and over 70% of this is classed as 'ancient' - having existed continuously since 1600AD. (Nationally, only about 19% of woodland is ancient). Ancient woods are important habitats for certain woodland plants that can only colonise very slowly. They also contain many archaeological features - for example the remains of iron workings. This is one of the characteristics that makes the High Weald a unique landscape.