

# How to Bug Hunt Responsibly



**You don't need any special kit to go mini beast hunting but these items may be useful:**

- magnifying glass
- plain white or light coloured piece of material – pillow case size or a bit bigger
- paintbrush or spoon
- a few plastic pots or glass jars
- ID guide

Invertebrates are amazing creatures in so many ways. It can be great fun going to look for them, but there are a few simple rules to make sure you don't accidentally harm the creatures you're looking for.

1. If you can observe invertebrates where they are without picking them up, please do! Many have delicate legs, antennae etc. that are easily damaged.
2. Lay a piece of white or plain light coloured material under a tree branch. Gently shake the branch and you could see a surprising number of bugs fall onto the sheet.
3. Look under logs and other large pieces of wood on the ground. These are often the easiest places to find minibeasts. Try to put logs back where you found.
4. If you have to pick up minibeasts in order to see them, very gently use a paintbrush to get it in a jar or plastic container. If using a jar or container -
  - NEVER put more than one creature in a jar at any time. One may be dinner for another!
  - NEVER reuse a jar that has had slugs, snails, earthworms in. Other invertebrates will stick to their mucous trails they will have left, and this will damage them.
5. Always return minibeasts to where you found them, or as near as possible.

Many invertebrates have amazing secret lives. Try to find out more about the ones you've seen when you get home. Enjoy!

