

TROON PRIMARY SCHOOL & EARLY YEARS CENTRE

Home Learning: Early Years Centre

# Minibeasts



## Literacy & English

**We are learning to identify characters, sequence events and say what we think happens next in a story.**  
**We are learning to control our pencil with correct grip and pressure.**

### Suggested Activities

- Read or listen to the suggested stories or a story of your own. Use the Early Reading Prompts to ask questions about the book.
  - ❖ The Hungry Caterpillar <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75NQK-Sm1YY&spfreload=10>.
  - ❖ Waiting for Wings <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tajuak1R5g4>
  - ❖ The Very Quiet Cricket <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YdiGEjz5b0Q>
- Pencil control – learn to draw minibeasts. Copy the steps below.
- Continue to practise writing your name. Make a name caterpillar.
- MAKATON – Mrs Law has recorded a video with Makaton signs for different minibeasts. Play a game of Minibeast bingo using the signs.

## Health & Wellbeing

**We are learning to cope with new situations.**  
**We are learning that being active every day keeps us healthy.**

### Suggested Activities

- Friendship activity – all children will be in groups or classes with some new faces as they move to pre-school or into primary 1. Use the friendship activity as a starting point for discussing friendship skills, or cut and paste the qualities into the sheet.
- Get ready for P1 by practising getting yourself dressed and undressed quickly. Maybe you could have a race with your siblings or your mum or dad, or perhaps someone could time you.
- Minibeast Moves - Wiggle like a worm, crawl like a caterpillar, jump like a grasshopper and fly like a butterfly to get moving. Can you think of any more minibeast moves?

## Numeracy & Maths

**We are learning to explore symmetrical shapes in our environment.**  
**We are learning to create our own symmetrical pattern.**

### Suggested Activities

- Look for symmetrical objects in your home or when you are out for a walk.
- Create simple symmetrical patterns using Lego or bricks (see below).
- Create symmetrical butterfly wings using paper and paint or use the template provided (see below).
- Make playdough butterflies with symmetrical wings or make salt dough ladybird or butterfly decorations and try to paint the same spots or patterns on both sides.
- Ladybird Spot counting activity (if you can do this easily, make a number sentence and add instead e.g. '3+4=7 3 spots add 4 spots equals 7 spots') <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/ladybird-spots>

## Other Curricular Areas

**We are learning to create a picture using different materials and concepts.**  
**We are learning to be creative using a variety of materials.**

### Suggested Activities

- Download the Seek app to identify minibeasts.
- Be a minibeast detective and go on a bug hunt.
- Channel your inner Spider-Man and go on a web hunt.
- Make a Bug Hotel or, like in Miss Malone's story, a Bug School!
- Use potatoes to make potato print bugs. Be creative and send photos to Mrs McClure.
- Plant a butterfly garden with wildflower seeds.
- Bake butterfly cakes or celebrate the bees with a honey cake. <https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/user/23650/recipe/simple-butterfly-cakes>

# What are minibeasts?

## Information about minibeasts

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z6882hv/articles/z9fkwmn>

### Minibeast Word Mat



spider



earwig



snail



milipede



crane fly



beetle



ant



fly



ladybird



butterfly



woodlouse



slug



bee



worm



wasp



caterpillar



dragonfly

twinkl

visit [twinkl.com](https://www.twinkl.com)



## Early Years Reading Prompts

### Blooms Questioning

Blooms taxonomy poses questions in increasing levels of difficulty with this higher order thinking starting at a young age. For the remainder of this term we will be working on remembering and understanding questions and have listed a small selection of these to ask your child to allow him/ her to think about and understand a story that has been heard.

#### Remembering

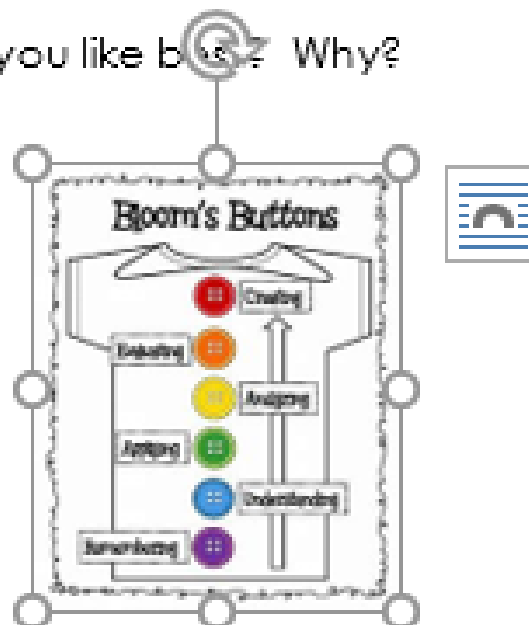
Who is the main character?

What does the main chracter look like?

#### Understanding

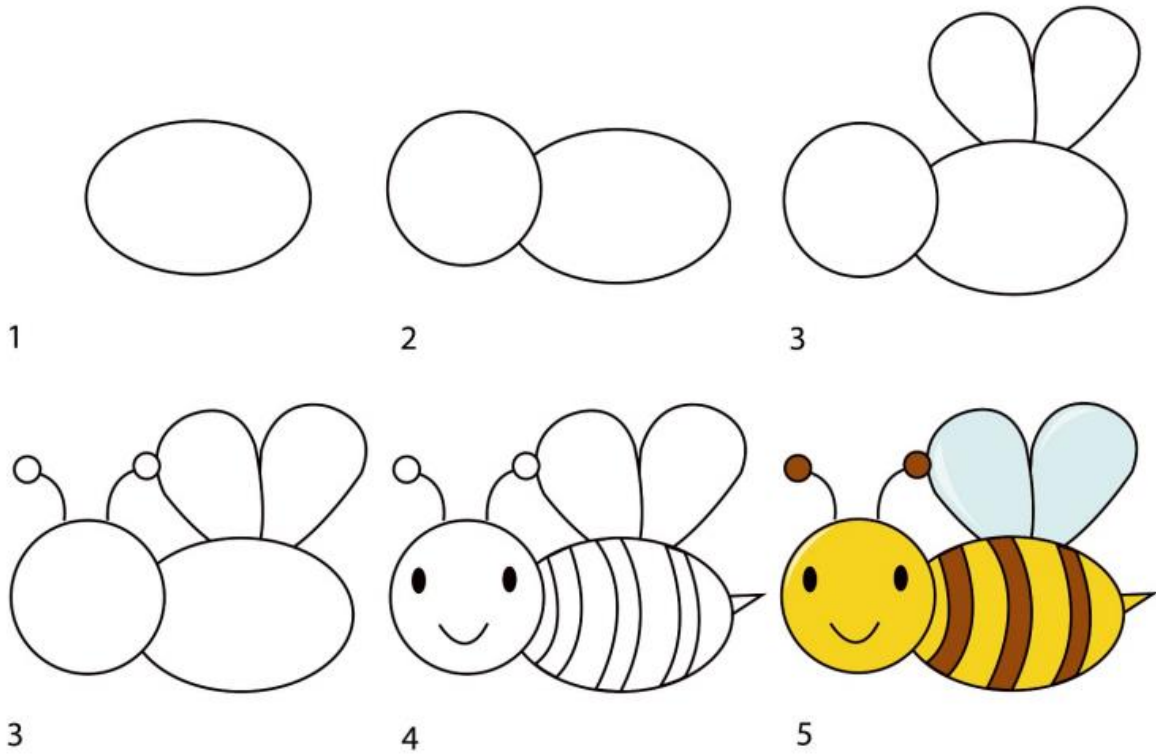
What is the book about?

Which part do you like best? Why?



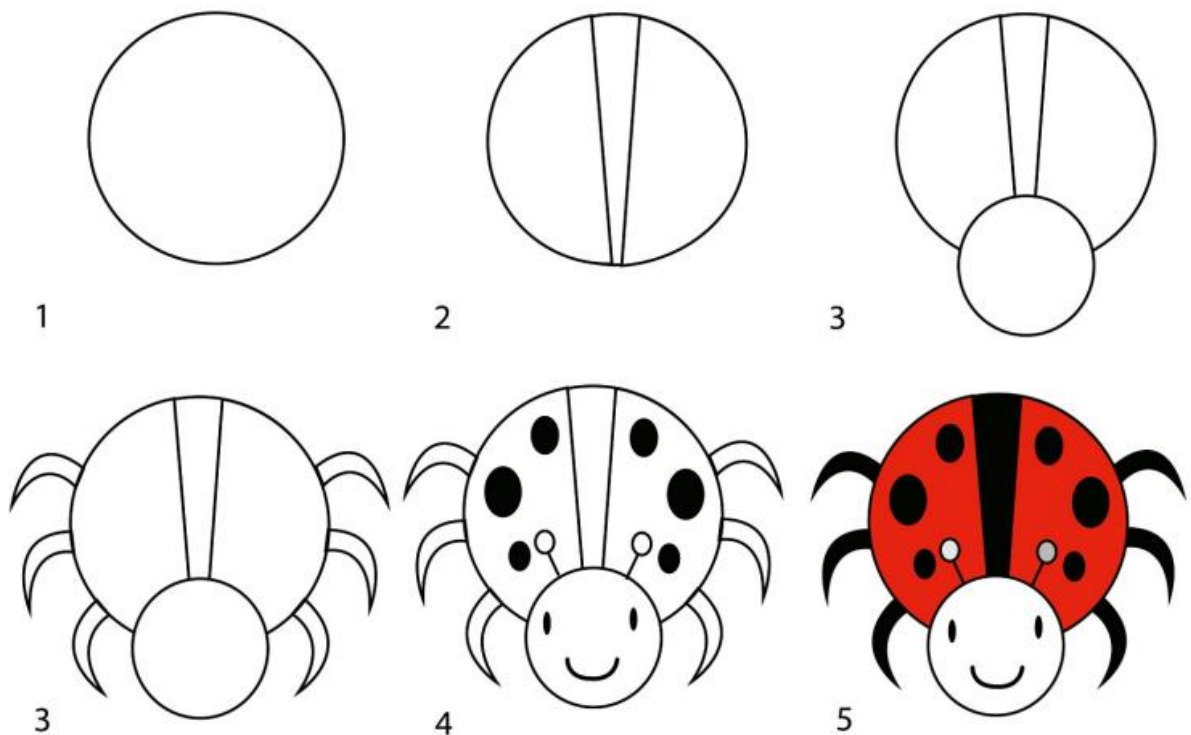
# Pencil control – Learn to draw minibeasts

## Learn to Draw a Bee



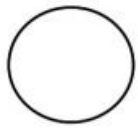
Learn to Draw with [www.ActivityVillage.co.uk](http://www.ActivityVillage.co.uk) - Keeping Kids Busy

## Learn to Draw a Ladybird

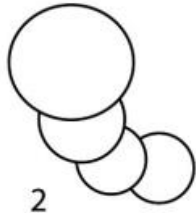


Learn to Draw with [www.ActivityVillage.co.uk](http://www.ActivityVillage.co.uk) - Keeping Kids Busy

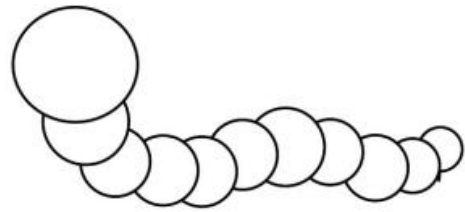
## Learn to Draw a Caterpillar



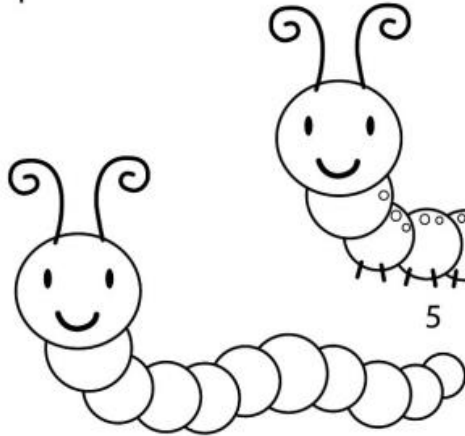
1



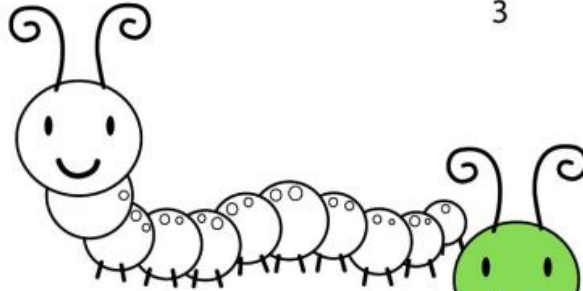
2



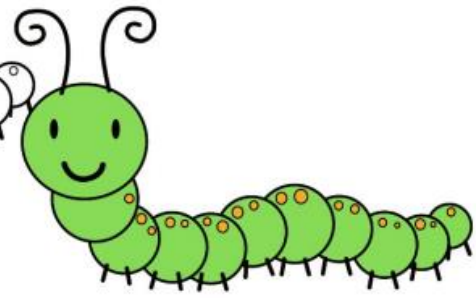
3



4



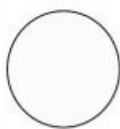
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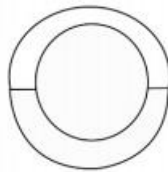
6

Learn to Draw with [www.ActivityVillage.co.uk](http://www.ActivityVillage.co.uk) - Keeping Kids Busy

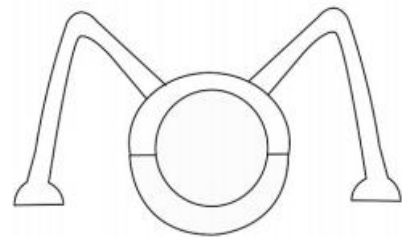
## Learn to Draw a Grasshopper



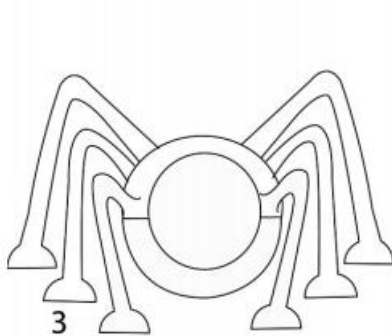
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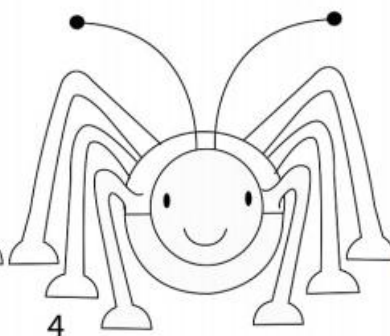
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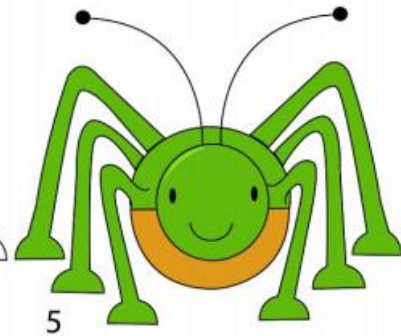
3



3



4



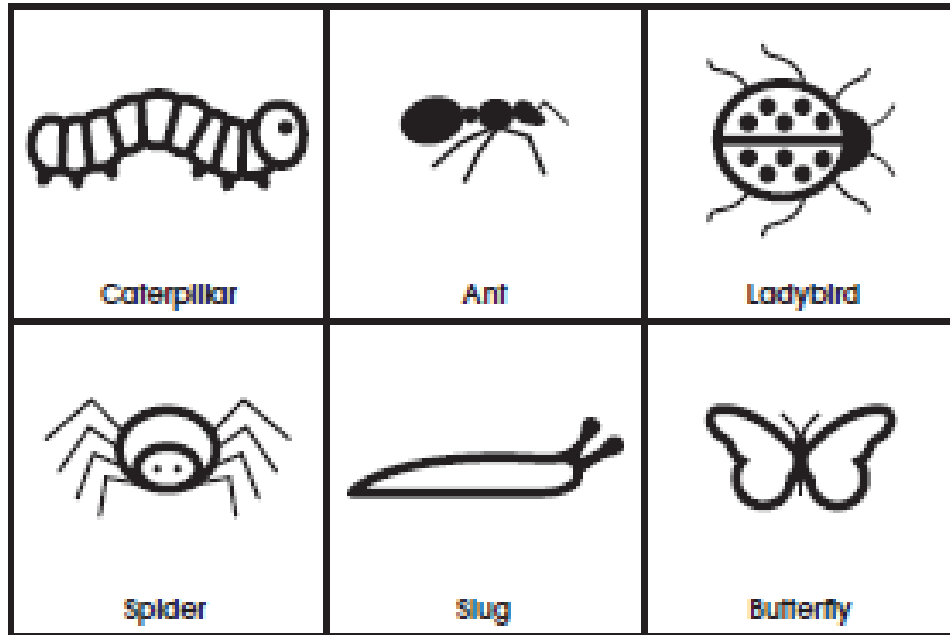
5

Learn to Draw with [www.ActivityVillage.co.uk](http://www.ActivityVillage.co.uk) - Keeping Kids Busy

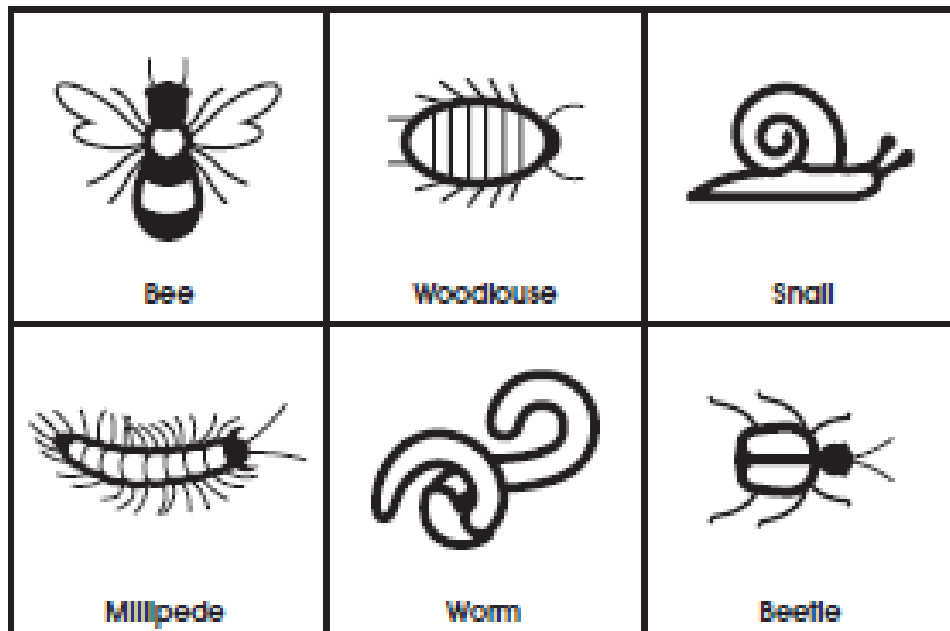


## Mini Beast Bingo

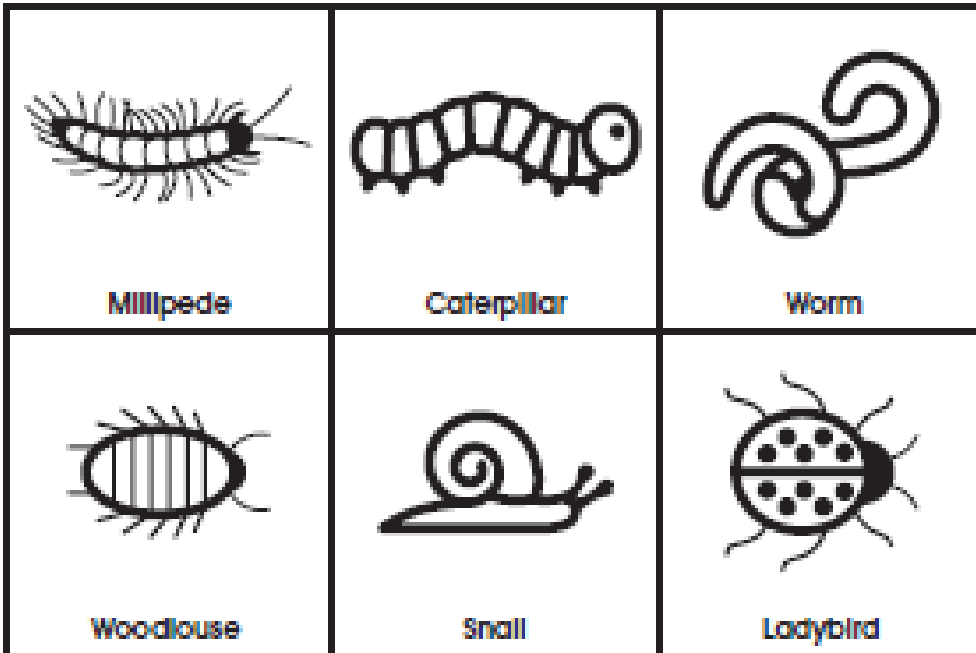
Print off enough copies for each of the people playing. This game is designed so that if you only have three people playing they can have two boards each if required. Go into the outdoor space and give the bingo cards and a pen to each player so they can mark off any mini beasts that they find.



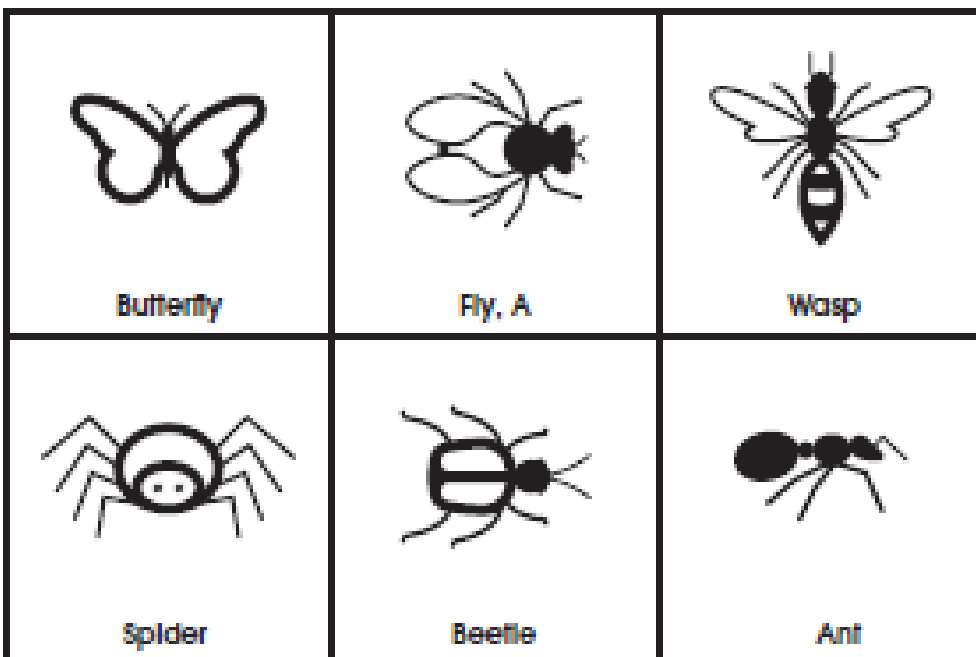
© The Mountain Chimps - 2014



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© The Mammal Society 2014



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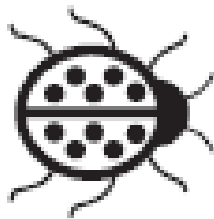
Spider



Millipede



Caterpillar



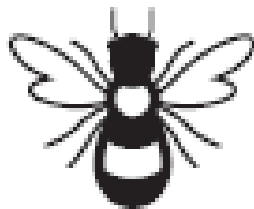
Ladybird



Ant



slug



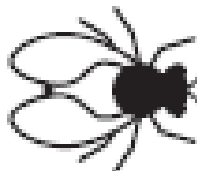
Bee



Worm



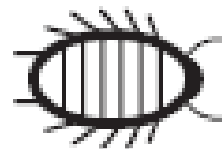
Beetle



Fly, A



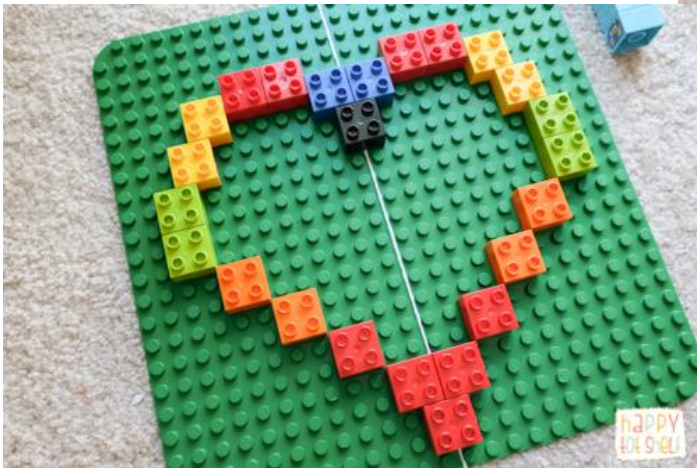
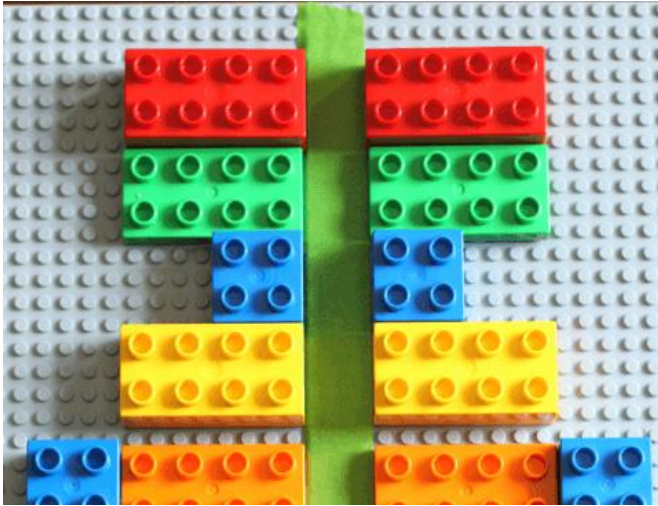
Butterfly



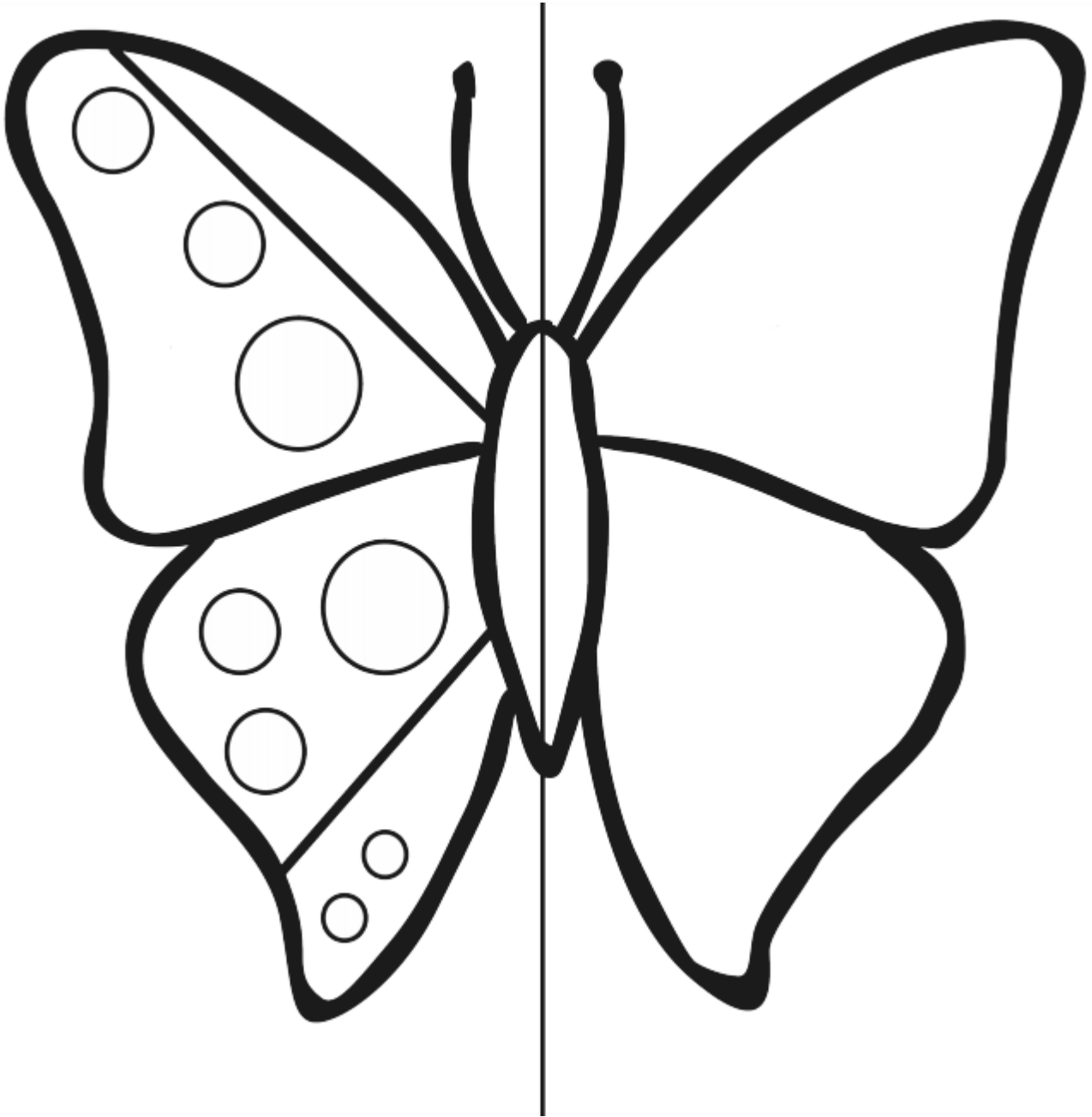
Woodlouse



# Symmetry with Lego



## Symmetrical butterfly wings





# Symmetrical salt dough/painted stones

## Playdough recipe

### Play dough

#### You will need

- 8 tbsp plain flour
- 2 tbsp table salt
- 60ml warm water
- food colouring
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil



#### Method

1. Mix the flour and salt in a large bowl. In a separate bowl mix together the water, a few drops of food colouring and the oil.
2. Pour the coloured water into the flour mix and bring together with a spoon.
3. Dust a work surface with a little flour and turn out the dough. Knead together for a few minutes to form a smooth, pliable dough. If you want a more intense colour you can work in a few extra drops of food colouring.
4. Store in a plastic sandwich bag (squeeze out the air) in the fridge to keep it fresh.



# How to be a good friend



I will be a good friend by:

Sharing

Telling  
tales

Being  
selfish

Not  
listening

Talking all  
the time

Talking about  
my favourite  
topics

Being  
kind

Taking  
turns

Thinking  
about  
others

Arguing  
all the  
time

Stealing

Bullying

Listening

Telling  
the truth

Telling  
lies

Getting my  
friends into  
trouble

Being  
generous

Being  
myself

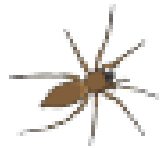
Being  
helpful

Learning to  
compromise



## Minibeast Hunt

Tick the minibeasts that you have found!



spider



woodlouse



slug



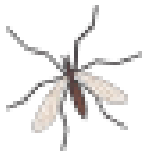
butterfly



beetle



wasp



crane fly  
(daddy-long-legs)



ladybird



earwig



dragonfly



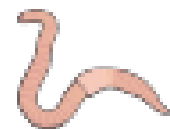
snail



ant



millipede



worm



fly



caterpillar



bee

# Bug Hotel examples





## Potato Print Bugs

