

Minibeasts of the Celtic Rainforest

Time: 15-20 minutes

Location: Classroom

Aim: Learn about the role of minibeasts in an ecosystem and why they are dependent on the woodland habitat to survive.

Subject:
Science and
Technology

Skills:
Literacy

Minibeasts of the Celtic Rainforest feed on plants, fungi, and other animals.

Can you give an example of an:

Animal that feeds on plants

Animal that feeds on fungi

Animal that feeds on other animals

Animal that feed on things that have died (detritus)

Animal that feed on animal poo

Animal that feeds on tree seeds

All minibeasts have different roles in the ecosystem.

The **detritivores** collect and eat dead matter to create rich soil.

The **herbivores** eat the vegetation (plants).

Then the herbivores are eaten by **carnivores** (animals that eat other animals).

Some are also **pollinators** which help plants to reproduce by spreading pollen.

Each of these roles are important to life in the woodland.



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Minibeasts of the Celtic Rainforest

Can you match up the descriptions with the type of animal?

I move underground and remove plant material into the soil and eat it.

I'm a pollinator

I move from flower to flower collecting nectar and pollen and pollinate plants.

I'm a detritivore

I move along the ground collecting dead material and eating it.

I'm an herbivore

I move around on plants stopping to eat leaves or stems along the way.

I'm a carnivore

I move along the ground and hunt insects and eat them.

I'm a detritivore

Can you give examples of the minibeasts that could fit these descriptions above?

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	

Why don't you make a list of the places you could look for minibeasts ready for when you next visit a woodland.



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