



# MINIBEASTS

Our top tiny things to look out for on a visit to our sites



Tick the empty boxes as you go!



## 1 Butterfly

Butterflies come in many different colours, but did you know that their four wings are transparent? They are made of a see-through material and covered with lots of tiny scales that reflect the different colours we can see.



## 2 Woodlouse

Woodlice like dark, damp places. They eat rotting wood, fungi and even their own poo! There are over 30 species of woodlouse in the UK. Can you find one lurking under a log or hiding in fallen leaves?



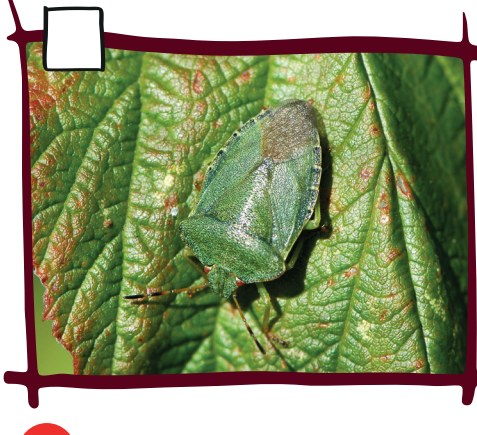
## 3 Grasshoppers

Grasshoppers like to live in long grass. They are either green or brown and use their long back legs to jump distances of up to 80cm, which would be like a human jumping the length of a whole football pitch!



#### 4 Ladybird

Ladybirds are helpful beetles that eat aphids (tiny insects who can damage plants). As well as red, they can also be other colours, including yellow, white, brown and black, with different numbers of spots. How many spots do the ladybirds you find have?



#### 5 Shield Bug

Shield bugs are also called stink bugs because they release a smelly liquid when threatened. If you pick one up, you may get a small stain on your finger. The most common one in the UK is bright green and brown, and it eats hawthorn berries and leaves.



#### 6 Damselflies and Dragonflies

Often seen near to water, dragonflies (pictured) are usually larger than damselflies. The best way to tell the difference between them is to look at them when they land. Damselflies hold their wings in a straight line along their back and dragonflies hold them out to the side.



#### 7 Bee

There are over 270 different types of bees in the UK. Telling them apart can be very difficult. Some live in large colonies, some live in small colonies, and some solitary bees live on their own. Only one, the honey bee, makes honey.



#### 8 Centipede

Centipedes have long, thin bodies that are made up of lots of segments. Despite their name, no centipede species actually has 100 legs, but some have over 300! Common centipedes can be found in many different habitats such as woodland, gardens and the sea shore.



#### 9 Snail

Roman snails are the largest species of snail in the UK and can grow up to 45mm wide. They are thought to have been brought here by the Romans for food and can be found at many of our Roman Villa sites. They are now rare and protected by law so are definitely off the menu!

