



# Microhabitats

The Cautious Caterpillar

twinkl

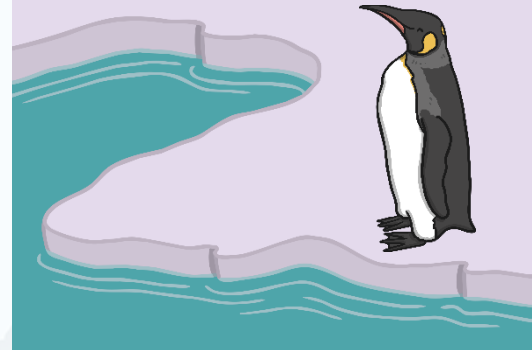
# Habitats

A habitat is a place that an animal lives in. It provides the animal with food, water and shelter.

There are many different sorts of habitats around the world from forests to grasslands, mountain slopes to deserts.



Different habitats are home to different animals. They work well together because they all do things to help keep the habitat healthy.



# Microhabitats

A **microhabitat** is a very small part of a habitat, such as a clump of grass or a space between rocks.

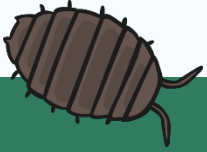


It is a habitat for extremely small creatures, such as woodlice.

A microhabitat has its own temperature and light and its own creatures.

Microhabitats are places such as the shady area under a tree or underneath a rock in a stream.

# Microhabitats



## A Fallen Log



This is a microhabitat. It is dark and cool inside.

Minibeasts live here because they can eat the rotting wood, keep moist in the dark inside and burrow out of the sun.

They are safe from birds that want to eat them.

### Creatures found here:



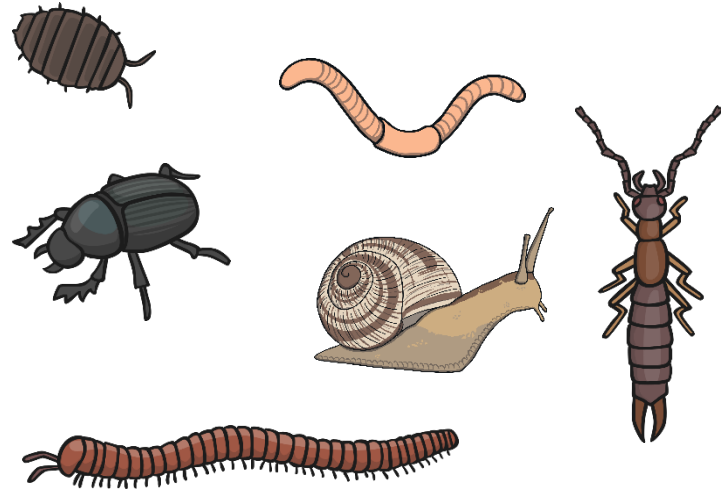
# Microhabitats

## Leaf Litter



This microhabitat is home to animals that like to be warm, damp and dark. The animals can nest or hide to protect themselves.

### Creatures found here:



# Microhabitats

## Grass



Grass is a microhabitat. It is home to many minibeasts who eat the grass, shelter in it and can be camouflaged in the leaves.

### Creatures found here:



# Minibeasts

Many different minibeasts live in many different microhabitats. They are suited to live in that microhabitat because they can find the food, water and shelter they need. Minibeasts help to keep the microhabitat healthy.



# Minibeasts

## Caterpillars



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- Caterpillars like to live on top and underneath leaves.
- They can use their camouflage to hide against the leaves.
- This helps to protect them so they cannot be seen by predators.
- This also means they have a continuous supply of food.



# Minibeasts

## Ladybirds



- During the summer, ladybirds live in shrubs, branches, and flowers.
- When the weather gets colder, they find shelter in places such as tree stumps or cracks in wood. This then becomes a place to hibernate. They crawl under leaves to protect themselves from the winter cold.
- When hibernating, ladybirds huddle together in order to keep warm.



# Minibeasts

## Worms



- Worms like to live in the soil.
- They need the soil to be damp.
- Worms help to keep the soil healthy as they dig tunnels that let air and water get to the roots of plants.



# Minibeasts

## Bumblebees



- Bumblebees depend almost entirely on flowers for their food (nectar).
- Because of this, bumblebees like to live where there are lots of flowers.
- The flowers need to be a certain shape for them to be useful to bumblebees. Flowers with petals that form narrow openings can be too small for bumblebees to reach the nectar.



# Minibeasts

## Spiders



- Spiders are able to live just about anywhere.
- They like living in quiet places, where they can get food easily (other minibeasts).
- Their body colours help them to blend in well with their surroundings.
- Spiders build webs to catch small bugs to eat. These will often be between two plants/stems or in the corner of a room.



# Minibeasts

## Grasshoppers



- Grasshoppers like to live in fields and meadows, where there is plenty of food for them.
- Grasshoppers like to eat grass, leaves and grains.
- They also like living in long grass because it helps to hide them from predators.
- They don't have nests and most live alone.



# Minibeasts

## Snails



- Garden snails are most often found in gardens, hiding between rocks or gaps in walls.
- They are rarely found in open meadows because there are few places for them to hide from predators.
- They are often found in vegetable patches, under big leaves, where there is plenty to eat.



# Minibeasts

## Butterflies



- Butterflies like areas with flowering plants, since this is where they get their food (nectar).
- Butterflies will usually be found on brightly coloured flowers in gardens, wildflower patches, woodland and rainforests.
- They are often found in sunny spots on low plants.





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