

This week is Mini Beast week

We have a new story , The City of Mini Beasts. You can listen to it , read it yourself or read it with someone else. We also have some activities for you to try, surprisingly all about mini beasts.

ZEST POINTS – remember you can collect ZEST points if you share your ideas, images, drawings and answers to things like word scrambles, quizzes or any thing else in the activities sheets you have a go at. Points can win prizes and we divide what you share into three ages groups - five and under, five to eights and eights to elevens.

The City of Mini Beasts

Of course back then no one knew that when the last car pulled into the last space on the road ...that would be the day the city of mini beasts began and also of course this was a long time ago in the days of wheels... in the days of wheels...in the days of wheels.

I'm a giant hairy caterpillar. i was born in the city of mini beasts well I was hatched along with my 100 brothers and sisters. I'm lucky i haven't been eaten by now, I'd be happy to feed the birds but I'm really looking forward to being a moth.. a big beautiful giant moth like my dad

My dad used to tell me stories about what he'd get up to at night. Flying through the sky. Flying through the trees and what he'd see inside when he flew up to windows

I'm a spider . You might have noticed I've got eight legs

The city of mini beasts is where I live but my home stretches from that cup holder to that door handle.

I often have little visitors that come to dinner. Well they come and end up as my dinner.... staying to dinner.

Those little flies are my friends. Those little flies that nature sends that end up in my tum.

Now let me take you on a little tour of our city, the city of mini beasts. Below on the ground floor where the wheels and tyres have sunk into the ground almost halfway live the earthworms and the creatures of the soil. Then rising upwards the great twisted roads of the coiled springs where the earwigs take their strolls.

Through the floor into the carpets a favourite home of the black clocks. Now some seats are cloth and some are hide... a good name because here is where the spiders like to hide and watch for their tea time visitors the flying mini beasts who fly around the wind screens and sometimes out through the sun roofs to the outside and the world of wheels.

Look at me... go on look ..I'm a gorgeous butterfly ..the people of the wheels call me the red admiral...I flutter and I bring beauty wherever I land. I have travelled far and wide and I have seen things... things that would make the other mini beasts gasp and hurry away from the light. fields of green , towering trees , foxes and badgers and owls the creatures of the night.

Bzzzzzz I'm a wasp and I've got a bee in my bonnet and here's why. Tell me why are we so unpopular with the people of the wheels? Bees aren't. so why us?

I often fly out from my nest. Its just down there in that yellow and black car... i picked it ..you can probably tell why and I can clear a garden of wheelies in 5 minutes They run in the house screaming and screaming.. and off i fly back home.

Remember me ? I was at the start of this story The hairy caterpillar ? Well since you last saw me I've turned into.. wait for it... a moth. Its getting dark now and quiet in the City of Mini Beasts and I'm going out flying for the first time ..there's a bright shining light over there in the distance and for some reason..i don't know why I want to go and have a look

And so we leave them in their home .. a thousand no a million creatures... they live in the cars that no one can drive anymore. Maybe one day there'll be a City of Mini Beasts... on your road

Unscramble the words below to reveal the names of twelve well known mini beasts.

Then match their name to the pictures.

Ten Zest points if you get all the names right and another ten points if you can match them all to the correct image.

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Make a mini beast mask

Can you remember the different creatures who lived in the city of mini beasts? Which was your favourite? The spider, the beautiful butterfly or maybe it was the black and yellow striped wasp? Can you have a go at making a mask of your favourite mini beast?

Have a listen to this tune from a vintage Disney animation called *Summer Magic* from the 1970's whilst you get making your mask..... Its called *The Ugly Bug Ball*. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OfsKP-EtByA>



Perhaps you could draw some 'Ugly Bugs' or even some beautiful Bugs of your own? Maybe you could make a greetings card to give to some one you like using some of your drawings.

OR.....Make a bug from found or recycled materials and send us a picture to win twenty Zest points.

Quick Quiz

Fun Fact or Fiction?

Can you answer all these mini beast questions correctly and get 20 Zest points?

Spider some spiders are vegetarians True or False? .

Ant Ants versus Humans **Who is stronger?**

Ladybird What do they call Ladybirds in the United States ? Ladyflies Ladybugs or Ladyspots ? .

Caterpillar Which of these statements is wrong?

Caterpillars turn into moths , turn into bees or turn into butterflies

Centipede Centipedes can have 101 legs True or False ?

Slug Would you address a Slug as **Mr Slug** or **Mrs Slug** ?

Fly How fast can a fly actually fly ? 10 mph 25 mph or a 1000 mph ?

Snail Snails live on land and in rivers and one more place . **Where?**

Butterfly Butterflies are found everywhere in the world except one place. Is that , Antarctica , New Zealand , Sheffield or Hawaii ?

Earthworm How long is the longest earthworm ever measured? **1 metre** 10 metres or 100 metres ?

Moth If the first moth ever born on the earth was still alive how many candles would he have on his birthday cake? **One billion ?** Twenty one million? One hundred and ninety million?

Wood lice If you lived in Devon what would you call Wood lice? Chucky Pigs ? Rice Pudding Bugs? or Grandad Bugs?