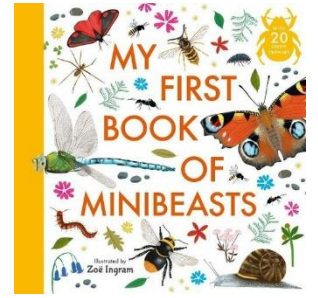


Suggested learning opportunities for *My First Book of Minibeasts* by Zoe Ingram



Mathematics and numeracy

- Take a class vote of everyone's favourite minibeast from the book. Record the results using tally marks or a bar graph. **(MNU 0-20a/1-20a)**
- Can you spot any examples of symmetry in the book? Draw your own insect with symmetry – thinking about patterns, number of legs and feelers. **(MTH 0-19a/1-19a)**
- Using pictures, models, or toys, ask pupils to sort and categorise them as either insects or not insects. **(MNU 0-20b/1-20b)**

Sciences

- Explore the different habitats in the book and in Scotland. Ask the class which beasties they've seen before – either in Scotland or whilst in another country. **(SCN 0-01a, SCN 1-02a)**
- One of the minibeasts in the book is a bumblebee. Use [The Bumblebee Conversation Trust's learning resources](#) to learn more about the different types of bumblebees and what you can do to look after them! **(SCN 0-01a, SOC 1-08a)**

Technology

- Research bug houses and make one for your playground or community. **(TCH 0-09a/1-09a, TCH 0-10a/1-10a)**

- Some of the insects in the book are pollinators. Research flowers that are good for pollinators and make your own seed bombs for your playground or local community. **(SCN 0-03a/1-03a, TCH 0-09a/1-09a)**

Literacy and English

- Pick one of the beasties in the book and learn about them. In groups, take it in turns to give a talk to each other about your insect. **(LIT 0-02a/1-20a, LIT 0-10a, ENG 0-03a)**
- Use the facts and information about the insects to talk about your own facts or characteristics. What food do you like? What are your talents? What kind of house do you live in? **(LIT 1-04a, LIT 1-05a)**
- Pick a bug that isn't in the book and design your own page of information. Together you could make a class book of lots of different types of bugs and beasties! **(LIT 0-26a/1-26a)**
- Keep a beastie diary of any bugs you see. Use drawings, writing, labels, photos, and collage to document to keep track of what you find! **(LIT 0-21b)**

Modern languages

- The book shows the different names for different insects, including Latin scientific names. Look up any Scots or Gaelic names. **(LGL 0-01a,**

- **Science, technology, numeracy and mathematics**
- **Literacy and English and Modern languages**
- **Health and wellbeing, and social studies**
- **Expressive arts**

LGL 0-12a, LGL 0-13a)

Health and wellbeing

- Some people are afraid of bugs. Talk about different fears and about how feeling nervous or afraid is completely normal. Discuss who you can talk to if something makes you feel frightened or upset. **(HWB 1-03a)**
- All the bugs in the book have different characteristics that make them unique. Talk about the similarities and differences between us. We're all similar but unique! **(HWB 1-10a, HWB 1-47a)**

Social studies

- Explore littering and how you can protect your local green spaces or woodlands. What recycling do you do in your class, school, and community? **(SOC 0-08a/1-08a)**
- During summer is there any wild grass around or near your school? Try and find some green space and see what beasties live there. Explore different ways to record what (or who!) you find. **(SOC 0-08a, LIT 0-21b)**

Art

- Some of the bugs and beasties in the book have camouflage. Use collage to explore camouflage. Use different textiles, materials, or colours to explore trying to "hide" an insect. In

pairs, discuss which colours stand out and which are easier to hide. **(EXA 0-02a/1-02a)**

- Make a butterfly or caterpillar finger puppet. Play some music and explore flying it through the air in time to the music. **(EXA 1-04a, EXA 1-18a)**
- Pick an insect from the book and draw it. It doesn't have to be a perfect recreation; pupils can explore creating their own version. You can use your classes creations to make a wall display. **(EXA 0-02a/1-02a)**

Music

- Use the Bookbug Song and Rhyme Library, or the Bookbug app, to learn some songs and rhymes about insects: ["Da Wiggly Caterpillar"](#) or ["1, 2, 3 My Mammy Caught a Flea"](#). Can you come up with your own actions to do in time with the songs? **(EXA 1-18a)**
- Listen to the unique sounds a grasshopper makes. Can you use musical instruments to recreate the sound? **(EXA 0-17a/1-17a)**

Other books to read together...

- *The Big Book of Bugs*, Yuval Zommer
- *Nature Trail*, Benjamin Zephaniah and Nila Aye
- *Omar, the Bees and Me*, Helen Mortimer and Katie Cottle