



14. Case study – crime-solving minibeasts!

Requirements: internet access

7 – 11 years: teacher-led (read the article first and focus on most relevant points)

12 – 14 years: teacher-led

Curriculum: Science (animals and their habitats, classification, working scientifically); computing (responsible online use)

Time: 20 minutes

Many minibeasts eat and break down dead plants and animals. These minibeast are called detritivores. They chew the waste into tiny bits. This helps recycle important food and nutrients back into the soil.

Woodlice chew on rotten wood and dead leaves.

Millipedes Munch on decaying leaves and soft plant parts.

Earthworms swallow dead plant matter and soil, turning it into rich compost.

Slugs and snails Feed on rotting leaves, moss, and fungi.

[Read this article about how some minibeasts help solve crimes!](#)

Discuss: How does what we know about the lifecycle of a fly help solve crimes?