

My mini-beast project



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LADYBIRD

Facts

1. Not all lady birds are red.
2. Their spots and bright colours warn predators that they are not good to eat.
3. Lady Birds hibernate in the winter in large groups.



I found this ladybird on my mum's flowers, in our garden.

Lady birds are beetles with 6 legs. They eat aphids and can eat hundreds every day. They have wings and they can fly long distances. They live for 1 to 3 years. They are great to have in your garden. The most common ladybird in Ireland has 7 spots.

SPIDER

FACES

1. Spiders are not insects
they are Arachnids

2. Spiders have 8 legs

3.

3. They have 6 or 8
eyes

4. They can make
silk and spin webs



I found this spider
in my bath. We brought
him outside to
freedom.

Spiders eat insects like flies, moths, wasps
and mosquitoes. They can survive for weeks
without food. Spiders use spinnerets on
their bodies to produce silk which
is very strong and sticky. The largest
spiders in the world are tarantulas which
can grow up to 28 centimeters. Spiders
lay eggs and store them in an egg sac to keep
them safe.

WOODLOUSE

FACES

1. Woodlice are Crustaceans related to shrimps and crabs

2. They are found all over the world except Antarctica

3. They live in cool damp places and only come out at night



I found this woodlouse under a flower pot in my garden

Woodlice are flat oval and grey with 7 body segments each with a pair of legs. They eat leaf litter, fungi, dead animals and plants. They are excellent decomposers. Woodlice are very good moms—they have a pouch like a kangaroo for eggs and young. Woodlice live up to 2 to 3 years.

SLUG

FACTS

1. Slugs are like snails but they have no shell.
2. They can grow up to 15cm long.
3. They are active only when the temperature is above 5°C .



I found this slug under a stone in my garden

Slugs eat seedlings, plants and fruit and vegetable crops. They are a serious pest in the garden. Slugs are eaten by lots of animals such as birds, badgers, hedgehogs and foxes. Slugs are both boys and girls at the same time! Slugs lay 40 jelly eggs 6 times a year.

ANTS

FACTS

1. There are more than 12,000 species of ants in the world.
2. an ant can lift 20 times its own body weight!
3. When ants fight it is usually to the death!



I found this nest of ants in our vegetable patch. I saw lots of ants and eggs.

Ants live in large colonies. There are 3 kinds of ants in a colony - the queen, the female workers, and males. The queen is the only ant that can lay eggs. Soldier ants protect the queen, defend the colony, gather or kill food and attack enemies. Female ants take care of the eggs and the babies.

CENTIPEDE

FACTS

1. Their name means "100 feet" but they never have exactly 100 legs - they always have an odd number of leg pairs.

2. If caught by a predator they can escape by losing a few legs and grow them back later.



I found this centipede under a brick at the back of my house.

Centipedes are hunters and eat insects, snails, worms and even other centipedes. They are found all over the world except Antarctica. They live in soil, leaf litter, under bark or stones. Centipedes are fast - its flat body and many legs make it super speedy.

BEES

FACTS

1 bees make honey for their hives.

2. bees fly at a speed of about 25 Km per Hour and beat their wings 200 times per second!

3. The Queen bee can live up to 5 years.



I found this bee on a flower collecting pollen in my garden.

Bees are super — important pollinators for flowers, fruits and vegetables. Bees live in hives or colonies. There are 3 types of bees — the queen who runs the whole hive and lays the eggs, the females who are the workers and find all the food, and the drones who are male.