

Book this module if:

- You have already done the Nature Explorer module or your class have been here before.
- Your children are in 2nd - 6th class.
- You want a theme that can be explored further at school or home.
- You are choosing bugs and insects as a topic to study as part of the 'living things' strand of the curriculum.

(These are recommendations only - modules are open to all groups)

Learning Outcomes: what we hope the children in your class will gain from the module:

- An understanding of basic food chains and where minibeasts come into this.
- An appreciation of the importance of soil.
- Knowledge of how minibeasts help to pollinate plants.
- The ability to name the parts of a minibeast.
- The ability to say why minibeasts are important to us

Methods of teaching and activities: what children will experience:

- Nature trail exploration looking at the environment that bugs live in.
- Exploring decomposition and soil creation in a woodland setting.
- Minibeast hunting and basic identification of various species.
- Art activity with natural materials making minibeasts or making minibeast habitats.

Suggested preparation activities to do in school:

- Talk about services that bugs/insects do for us e.g. soil creation, decomposition, pollination.
- Explore the parts of an insect and the lifecycle of various bugs.
- Conduct a bug hunt in your school grounds.

Suggested follow up activities to do after your visit:

- Conduct your own survey in your school grounds. What bugs and insects can you find?
- Make your own minibeasts in the classroom. This topic lends itself well to artwork.
- Make a bug hotel. Talk to us about how to do this.
- Set up a composter in the school and monitor it for minibeasts.

Useful links for further information:

<http://www.noticenature.ie/>

<http://www.ispynature.com/>

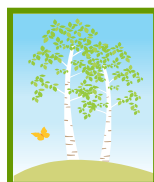
<http://www.treecouncil.ie/>

<http://www.biology.ie/>

<http://www.npws.ie/>

<http://www.museum.ie/en/collection/irish-insects.aspx>

<http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/>



Nature Education Programme
Glenveagh National Park, Churchill, Donegal
Tel: 00353 (0) 761 002691 / 3
E-mail: glenveagh-education@ahg.gov.ie