

INSECT PORTRAITS

Getting up close and personal with bugs is a great way to learn more about your environment and the creatures that live in it.



WARNING!

BE AWARE OF ANY ALLERGIES CHILDREN MAY HAVE BEFORE STARTING THIS ACTIVITY. ALWAYS TAKE CARE TO AVOID BEES, WASPS AND OTHER INSECTS THAT BITE.



Dig up a small amount of soil or compost from the garden and carefully add it to the bottom of your containers.

Find a few small stones and add 2 or 3 into each container- No need to add any holes to the containers, as the insects are only going to be there a short while.



It's time to go out into the garden and search for bugs!

NOTE- Make sure you have an adult with you, so you don't accidentally go near anything unsafe.

Top tip: Insects like to live in moist, dark places, such as under rocks and pots.

Top tip: Don't forget to look at flowers and plants, as these are homes for insects too.



Once you find an insect, carefully use the cardboard to move them from their home into the container.

Be sure to keep different insects in different containers.

Make a note of where you found them so you can return them home.



Use the magnifying glass to observe the insects up close-

- How many legs do they have?
- Do they have pincers, wings, markings or antennae?
- How do they move – do they jump, run or fly?

Once you have observed the insects, you can use your phone or camera to take pictures of the insects up close!



Carefully let the insects out and return them back to the spot where you found them.



Once you are back home, make sure that everyone washes their hands thoroughly.

Now it's time to get drawing! Use the pictures you took to draw the insects.

You will need:

Torch
Warm clothes
Jungle formula
Magnifying glass
Camera/Smartphone
Hand trowel
Plastic/glass containers
(must be see through)
Soil
Assortment of stones
Colouring pens/pencils
Paper/Card