

Activity—We're going on a bug hunt!

Teaching Instructions:

The Bug Hunt

1. Select an area to visit—maybe the school grounds or an area in a local park.
2. Put students into pairs or small groups and equip them with:
 - a. Animal Identification Sheet
 - b. Plastic spoons and clear bug pots or clear tupperware (optional)
3. Instruct students to move slowly through the area, searching for animals. The best places to check would be under stones and logs, in the cracks of trees and at the base of long grass!
4. If they need to get a closer look at an insect to work out what it is, they can use the spoons to gently pick it up and place it into the bug pot or tupperware so that they can see what it is.

Make sure they put the animal back where they found it!
5. **EXTRA TIP** — lay a white sheet or pillowcase under a bush or tree and shake the branches to see what falls out!
6. Groups should record each species they find on their Animal Identification Sheet, including how many they found and what microhabitat it was in.

The Discussion—questions

1. What different animals did you find on your nature hunt? Were they all bugs? (Use to touch on invertebrates vs. vertebrates)
2. Did you find the same number of each animal? Why do you think that is?
3. Where did you find each animal? (Bush, under log, on a tree). Did everything live in the same place? Why do you think that is?
4. What would happen if all the plants were taken away in this area?
5. What do the different things eat? Do any of them eat other living things? See if you can draw a food chain from the animals you saw.

Extension

1. Consider repeating the Nature Hunt on in a different type or area and comparing the animals found—e.g. woodland vs. field.

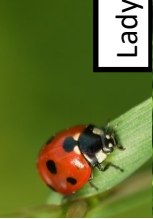

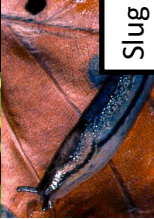

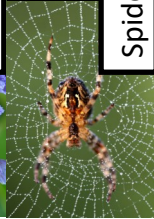



Animal Identification Sheet

Name:

Date:

Class:

Found it?	How many?	Where?
 Ant		
 Bird		
 Bumblebee		
 Butterfly		
 Centipede		
 Dragonfly		
 Earthworm		
 Fly		

Found it?	How many?	Where?
 Ladybird		
 Millipede		
 Slug		
 Snail		
 Spider		
 Squirrel		
 Wasp		
 Woodlouse		

Animal Identification Sheet

Name:

Date:

Class:

Found it?	How many?	Where?
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Found it?	How many?	Where?
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