

# Lesson 2 of 4: What do Curlew eat?



EYFS, KS1&2 Science

SEN: May need extra adult support

## Learning objectives:

- Observing closely, using simple equipment.
- Identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including microhabitats.
- Describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other Animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food.

## Learning Outcomes:

- To identify what Curlew eat.
- To name animals in a habitat.
- To describe how Curlew find food.

## Key Vocabulary

- Names of insects in guide.
- Minibeast
- Insect
- Segments

## Key Questions:

- What kind of animal is a Curlew?
- What features tell you that it is a wading bird?
- What is a habitat

## Equipment

Will require an outdoor area with vegetation, such as long grass and bushes, or an area that can be dug.

Equipment: Bug nets, insect ID guides, bug pots, shaker sheets, digging tools, recording sheet

Further Insect identification here:

<https://www.buglife.org.uk/bugs/identify-a-bug/>

## National curriculum links

Science, Literacy, maths

# Lesson 2 of 4: What do Curlews eat?



## What do you think Curlews eat? (10mins)

- They use their long bill to probe the ground for invertebrates such as worms, leatherjackets, and other insects too.
- We know they even like to eat the whinberries that grow on the hills in Shropshire. Young Curlews that haven't grown their long bill yet will try to catch smaller insects that live in long grass.
- Today we are going to try and catch some insects too!
- Remember when we are outside to stay in sight, and everyone will need to wash their hands with soap and water when they get back into the classroom

## Main Activity (30mins)

Show the class how to use nets and dig to catch minibeasts.

It is best to use sweep nets in areas of long grass, make sure you have plenty of space around you then quickly move the net through the grass and take a look inside to see if you've caught anything.

Put any mini beasts into your bug pots and try sweeping in a different area!

To use shaker sheets, take one of the white sheets and spread it out under a tree or shrub. Give the branch above it a shake and take a look on the sheet to see if any critters have fallen off. Again, you can put these in your bug pots to take a closer look.

Another way to look for minibeasts is by digging. You can use some of the diggers to have a look in the soil for more creatures - maybe you'll find some earth worms!

Remember to be gentle with any minibeasts you find, and once we've had a closer look, we will put them all back where we found them.

You can compare the bugs you find with the ID guides below to see if you can figure out what they are. It may be useful to look for the following things:

# Lesson 2 of 4: What is a Curlew?



## Main Activity (30 mins)

- How many legs has your minibeast got?
- How many body segments has it got?
- How does it move?
- Can it fly?
- What colour is it?
- Does it have any patterns or markings (like spots or stripes)
- Ks2, what is it? Identification guide.

## Additional activities

Count and record findings on pictograph or chart.

Draw and label varieties of minibeast and display with curlew pictures from lesson 1.

**Students will:** Be able to say what curlew eat and name some insects

**Teacher will:** Prepare resources, guide lesson and support.

**Less able students will:** Know that curlew eat insects and where to look for insects.

**Most students will:** Be able to name some insects curlews eat and know how to find them.

**More able students will:** Be able to identify what curlew eat and be able to describe how they find food

**Adaptions for less able students:** Provide one to one support and encouragement

**Extensions:** Find out more about the minibeasts found.

**Plenary (10mins):**

Return all minibeasts, safely to the place they were found, children to wash their hands.

Discussion: What do curlew eat? Allow class to answer in turn.

**Assessment criteria:**

Children can identify a range of minibeasts and say what curlew eat.

**Assessment  
Methods**

Questioning

Group discussion

Peer discussion

# What Do Curlews Eat?

## Let's Go Minibeast Hunting!



### Minibeast Guide

Worm



Bumblebee



Wasp



Hoverfly



Moth



Ladybird



Spider



Beetle



Snail



Butterfly



Woodlouse



Slug



Caterpillar



Ant



# What Do Curlews Eat?

Let's Go Minibeast Hunting!



## Minibeast Guide

Grasshopper



Shield Bug



Froghopper



Centipede



Dragonfly



Cranefly



These are just some of the minibeasts that you may find on your bug hunt.

Remember that these may come in other shapes and colours and can be further identified using field guides or online resources such as: Buglife.

Have a wonderful bug hunt and remember you may be bug hunting with hands but Curlew have to bug hunt with their long curved bill.

**Things to Remember**

**Wash your hands.**

**Be gentle with the minibeasts you find.**

**Have Fun!**

# What Do Curlews Eat?

Let's Go Minibeast Hunting!



## What I Found!

Tally

- Worm
- Bumblebee
- Wasp
- Hoverfly
- Moth
- Ladybird
- Spider
- Beetle
- Snail
- Centipede
- Dragonfly

- Butterfly
- Woodlouse
- Millipede
- Slug
- Caterpillar
- Ant
- Grasshopper
- Shield bug
- Froghopper
- Crane fly

Notes: