

# RHS GARDEN ROSEMOOR

## Self Guided Activity Ideas for Schools

### Key Stage 1

#### ANIMAL HUNTS

##### How long will it take?

Up to 1 hour

##### What do we need to bring?

Collecting pots, Magnifying glasses, Identification sheets (from web or shop), Recording sheets.

##### How do we do it?

Looking for the variety of life that lives in the leaf litter of the woods. Many of the animals are sheltering under the surface leaves.

Discuss with children not to harm the animals they find. However encourage the children not to be frightened of them.

They may wish to put some in a collecting pot to study more closely. Encourage them to count the legs, body parts, decide if they think they are meat eaters or plant eaters (often the meat eaters are faster as they have to catch their prey!)

Make sure the animals are carefully returned to their habitats.

Year 2 or adults may wish to use a simple identification sheet and count up how many they find of each animal. If an animal cannot be identified then sketch it on the back of the sheet and look it up later.



##### Where can we do it?

Lower woodland walk or Lady Anne's Upper Woodland walk.

##### When can we do it?

All year round though April to September will have more variety.

**REMEMBER children MUST wash their hands after exploring in the Leaf litter. Toilets are in the visitor centre.**

#### Follow up ideas at School

- Search for minibeasts at school and compare with those found at RHS Garden Rosemoor. Why might there be differences?
- Draw, paint, collage or make model minibeasts of what you have found. Make a display of these to show what variety lives below the leaves.
- Design your own minibeast to live in a special place. Make it from recycled materials.
- What is it like moving with more than 2 legs? Get in groups to make 6, 8, 14 or more legged animals. Try moving around or even try an obstacle course.