



nitty ★ gritty  
★ super city ★



SCIENCEWORKS



# Minibeasts

## Description of photo

The children use the sliding hand lens to magnify snail specimens which helps them to match one of them to the giant model snail.

## More information

Snails are one type of creature commonly found in backyards and parks. There are many different bugs and small creatures found in backyards and parks. Other minibeasts in the exhibition include a slater, a leaf-curling spider and a butterfly.

Scientists group living things by observing their similarities and differences.

## Learning outcomes

In this activity, children will:

- describe their activities and observations using both general and science-specific language
- participate in very simple investigations involving observation and counting
- sort objects according to basic criteria and apply them to real-life situations
- refine their observation skills by observing differences and similarities between living things.

## Pre-visit questions

1. What can you see in this picture?
2. What do you think is happening?
3. What other creatures have you found in your backyard?

## Post-visit questions

1. What creatures could you see through the sliding hand lens?
2. Name two other creatures you saw on display.
3. Which creatures in the display had antennae?

## During your visit

- Encourage children to find the matching specimens beside each displayed creature and encourage them to explain why they match. You may wish to introduce words such as antennae, soft body, hard body and so on, to extend their vocabulary.
- Talk about where you would find these creatures if you were at home.
- Discuss what these creatures eat.