

## Marvellous Minibeast



**Make a minibeast inspired by both Shaw House's gardens and bug hotel, as well as the minibeasts collection on display in West Berkshire Museum's special exhibition Cabinets of Curiosity.**

**You will need:** paint and a paintbrush or felt tip pens, fine nib permanent markers in various colours including black, scissors, stapler, cardboard

roll, sticky tape, glue dots, three pipe cleaners, wiggle eyes, and a sheet of transparent acetate film. I used an old OHP sheet but you could use the clear plastic in a toy gift box or similar. If this is not available, please use thin card instead.

### Instructions:

1. First, pick up the cardboard roll. Now push in both ends of the roll to form a blunt point.
2. To secure in place staple in the middle at both ends of the roll.
3. Paint or colour in the top and sides of the roll – leave the base bare. Leave to dry if using paint.
4. With a black permanent marker, draw a pair of wings on the acetate film. Cut out and then colour with the permanent markers. We chose to colour in purple and red.
5. Turn over your cardboard roll to the base. Place the middle of each of the three pipe cleaners in the centre of the base, evenly spaced apart, and secure them to the base with both glue dots and sticky tape.



6. Bend the pipe cleaners to make the six legs of the minibeast.

7. Fold the acetate wings in the middle. Put glue dots down the middle of the wings.

8. Secure the wings to the body of the minibeast. Add wiggle eyes – as few or many as you like. We chose to add two eyes.

9. Your minibeast is complete and ready to explore the outside.

**Fun facts: minibeasts (insects) have six legs and a body made up of three sections.**