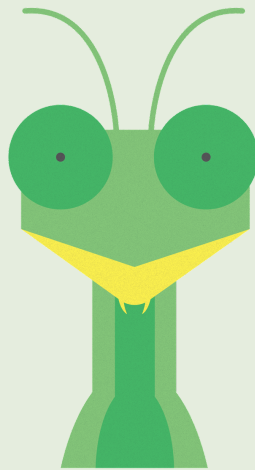


# Invertebrates

Lots of wild activities all  
about creepy crawlies.



This pack contains activities for  
a mix of ages and school years

# What is an invertebrate?

An invertebrate is an animal without a backbone.

Some have soft bodies like slugs, worms and jellyfish. Others have a hard out armoured layer called an exoskeleton like spiders, insects and crustateans.

Over 90% of all species on Earth are invertebrates.

# Wild Wordsearch

C	A	N	F	H	E	X	O	S	K	E	L	E	T	O	N	X	H
R	M	N	O	I	V	L	B	Q	R	M	U	T	L	S	W	L	I
U	O	G	D	B	N	Q	O	T	S	L	U	G	V	L	J	A	I
S	E	I	S	U	A	S	V	B	T	P	C	G	D	Q	E	D	V
T	B	X	T	M	Z	C	E	N	S	H	B	K	V	J	L	Y	Q
A	A	C	A	B	S	U	K	C	G	T	F	Y	P	S	L	B	R
C	Q	Y	R	L	F	Q	O	B	T	M	E	G	K	P	Y	I	G
E	K	N	F	E	Y	E	U	P	O	S	X	R	I	I	F	R	Y
A	T	M	I	B	C	W	G	I	J	N	W	T	H	D	I	D	N
N	S	L	S	E	B	F	V	H	D	Y	E	S	P	E	S	L	Y
S	V	M	H	E	A	R	T	H	W	O	R	M	Q	R	H	I	D
X	I	C	O	C	K	R	O	A	C	H	L	L	K	Q	N	G	I

AMOEBEA  
BUMBLEBEE  
COCKROACH  
CRUSTACEANS  
EARTHWORM

EXOSKELETON  
INSECTS  
JELLYFISH  
LADYBIRD  
LOBSTER  
NO BACKBONE

SLUG  
SPIDER  
SQUID  
STARFISH

# Minibeast muddles

Unscramble the words below to make the names of minibeasts you could find in your garden,

**Badleydir**

**Arrowthem**

**Eellimpid**

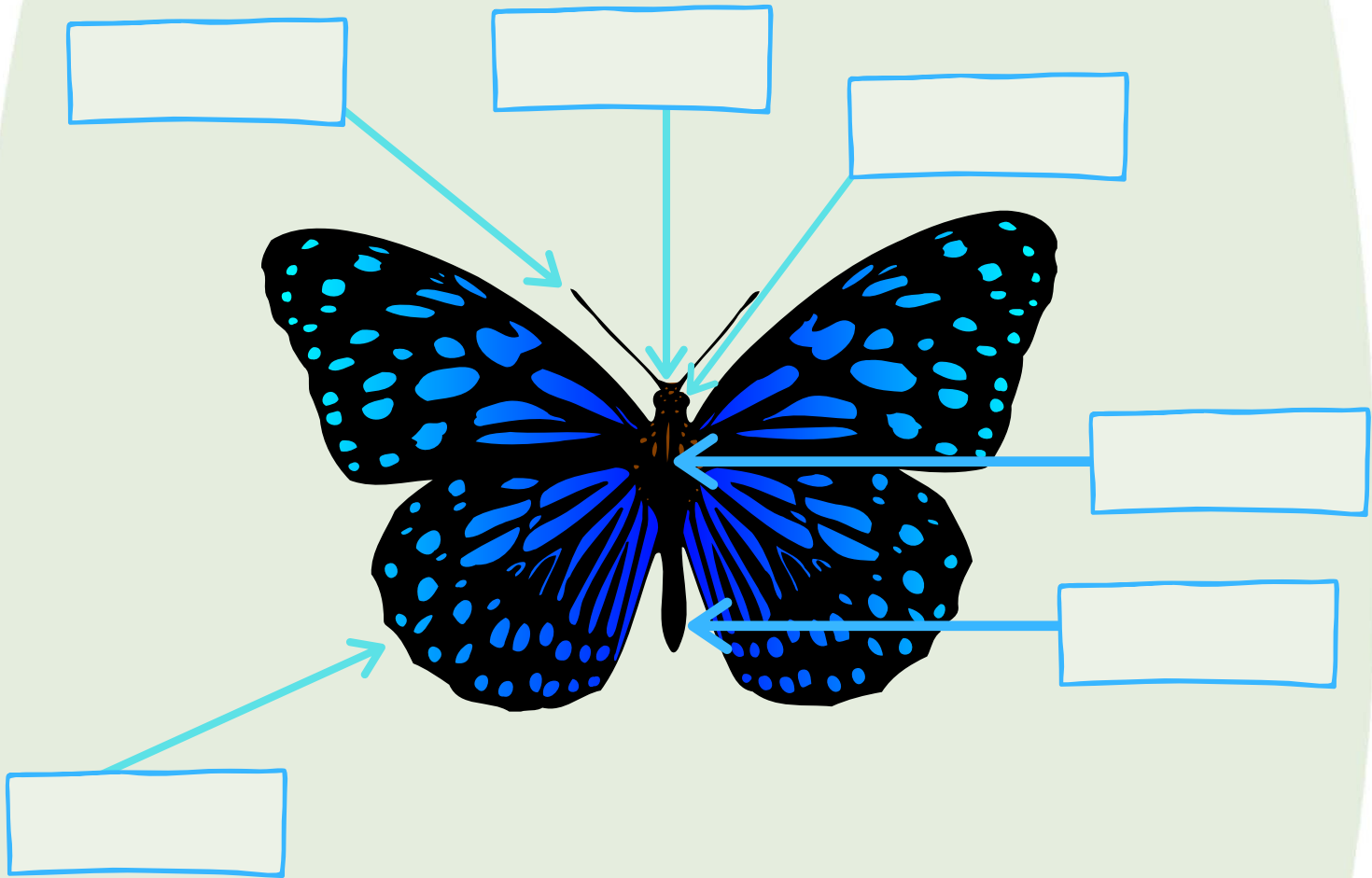
**Blued sigh**

**Belonged true**

**Gophersspar**

**Outback  
perfectly**

# Label the Butterfly



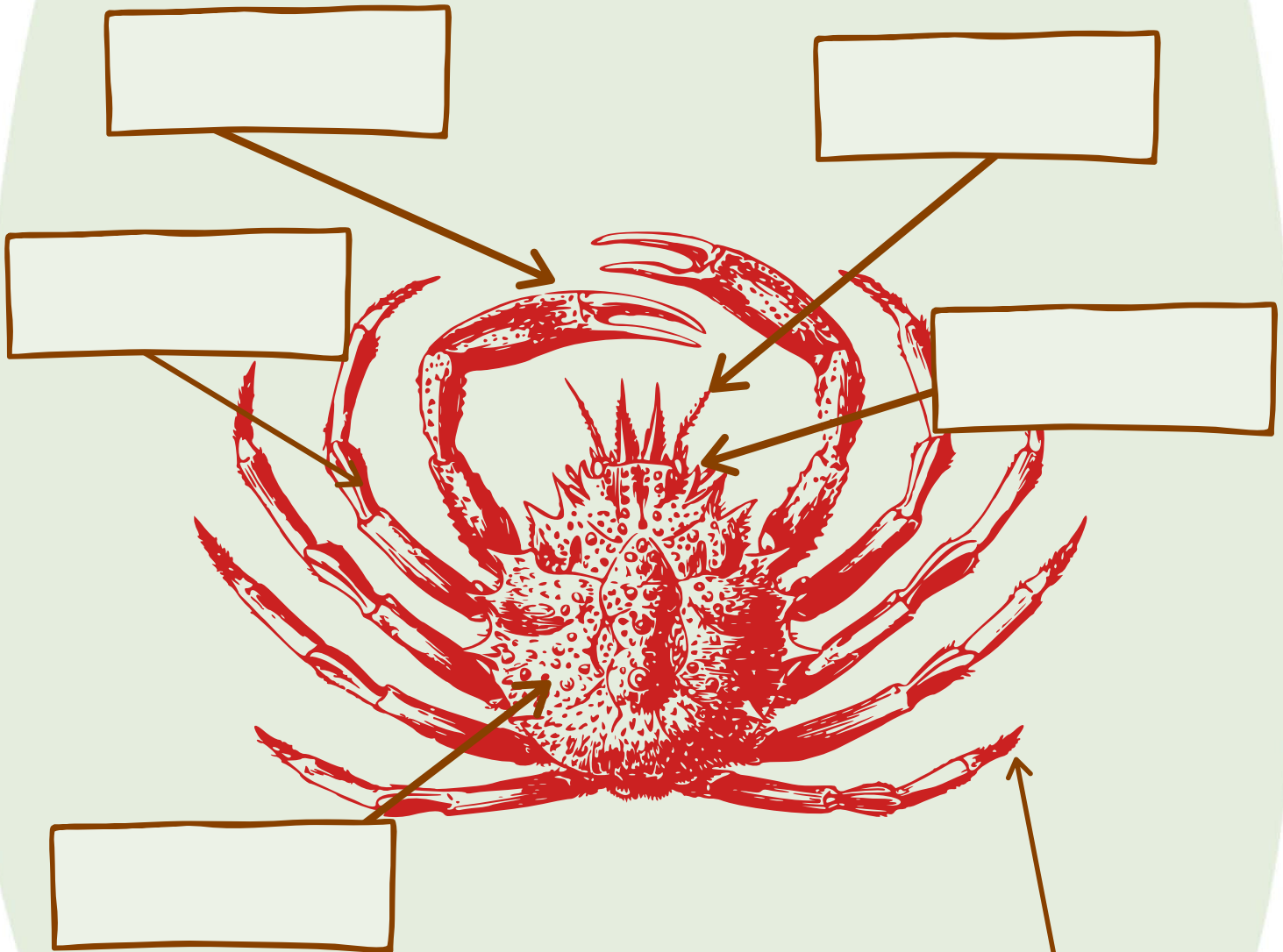
Wing  
Thorax  
Abdomen

Antenna  
Eye  
Head



Reaseheath  
Mini Zoo

# Label the Crab



Eye stalk  
Swimming leg  
Walking leg

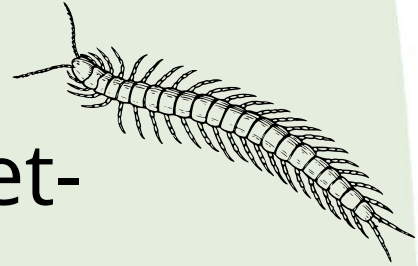
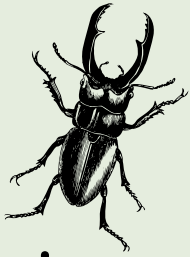
Antenna  
Pincer  
Shell



Reaseheath  
Mini Zoo

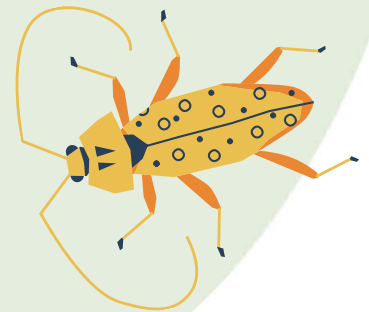
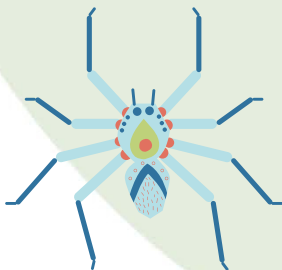
# Make a Bug Hotel

Find instructions and ideas here:



[www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/give-nature-a-home-in-your-garden/garden-activities/build-a-bug-hotel](http://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/give-nature-a-home-in-your-garden/garden-activities/build-a-bug-hotel)

[www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions/how-build-bug-mansion](http://www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions/how-build-bug-mansion)



Reaseheath  
Mini Zoo



# Endoskeletons and Exoskeletons

Create endoskeletons and exoskeletons out of pipe cleaners, clay, and lolly sticks.

## Materials

Clay  
Pipe cleaners  
Lolly sticks  
Masking tape  
Scissors  
Small wooden blocks



# Endoskeletons and Exoskeletons

## Directions

- Look up the differences between vertebrates and invertebrates. Including endoskeletons and exoskeletons.
- Create two dog/cat-like animals out of clay. The animals should be about the same size and standing on all four legs with a flat back.
- Cut the pipe cleaners to make a 'skeleton' for one of the animals, including a backbone and bones for the animal's legs. Then, shape the clay around the pipe cleaners.
- The other animal should not have a 'skeleton' and should only be made with clay.
- The animal with the pipe cleaners represents a vertebrate with an endoskeleton, while the other animal represents an invertebrate without an exoskeleton.
- Then test the ability of the animals to bear weight by stacking an equal number of blocks, one by one, on each animal.
- Which animal is able to tolerate more weight? (it should be the one with a pipe cleaner skeleton).
- Then recreate the clay animal without the pipe cleaners inside.
- Create this animal an exoskeleton for the animal by taping lolly sticks around the clay to reinforce it.
- Repeat the same experiment with the wooden blocks and think about how the exoskeleton changes the results of the experiment.



# Answers and Extra activities

## Minibeast muddles

Badleydir- Ladybird, Arrowthem- Earthworm, Eellimpid- millipede,  
Blued sigh- Shield bug, Belonged true- Ground beetle,  
Gophersspar- Grasshopper, Outback perfectly- Peacock Butterfly

## Extra Activities

- Go on a bug hunt in your garden or local green area.
- Count the legs and try and use an identification guide to find out which invertebrate family your finds are from.
- Go exploring in the rock pools if you live by the sea or in your pond if your don't to see what inverts you can find. (With an adult.)
- Make your own invertebrates out of recycled materials you can find round the house.