

Moors Valley

Country Park and Forest



Make a sweep net

Make your own sweep net to help you look for insects in long grasses

You will need

A white or pale coloured pillowcase, a wire coat hanger, a strong wooden stick or pole (about waist height) and some strong sticky tape.



How to make

- 1 Open up the wire coat hanger into a round shape and uncurl the hooked end.
- 2 Hold the wire at the open end of the pillowcase and fold over about 2 inches of the pillow fabric and secure firmly using double-sided tape or a needle and thread.
- 3 Attach the coat hanger to the pole using plenty of strong tape.
- 4 Use your sweep net by sweeping gently from side to side in the long grass.



Top Tip: wear long trousers when you are using your sweep net in long grass to avoid picking up any ticks.

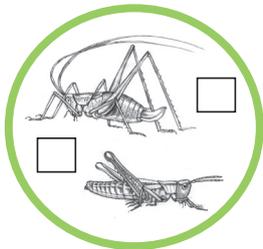
What have you caught...?

Tick the ones you have found



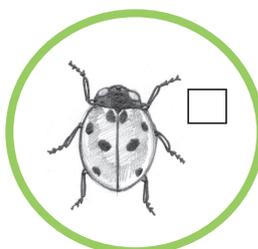
Harvestmen and spiders

Both have 8 legs but spiders have two body parts and harvestmen have just one



Grasshoppers and crickets

Grasshoppers have short antennae and crickets have long antennae. Both produce sounds by rubbing parts of their bodies together. This is called stridulation.



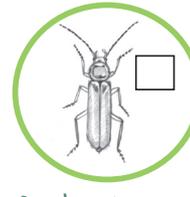
Ladybirds

Ladybirds are a type of beetle. They have one pair of wings underneath a pair of hard wing cases. There are 26 readily identifiable species of ladybird in Britain.



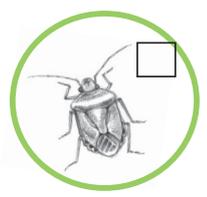
Froghoppers

As their name suggests these small creatures can jump very far. They lay their eggs on grasses and surround them with foam known as 'cuckoo spit'.



Soldier beetles

A commonly found beetle in grassy meadows. They get their name from their red and black colouring, like old soldiers uniforms.



Shieldbugs

Bugs have sucking mouthparts rather than the biting and chewing mouthparts like those of beetles.