

ACTIVITY 2 (CONT.)



Pond Dipping

Instructions (Cont.)

4. Place your net in the water, use a figure of eight motion (as opposed to side to side without turning the net) as this will ensure that the minibeasts are not simply washed out of the net with each sweep.

5. After a few swirls, bring your net to the tray. Turn it inside out and swill it in the water in the tray. This will ensure that all the minibeasts are put into the water.

6. Put your net to one side where it will not be tripped over.

7. Look closely at the tray, pond minibeasts can be tiny and transparent. Identify whether you have caught anything. If not, repeat steps 1-7.

8. Draw field sketches or take photographs of the minibeasts you have caught. Things to note might be –

How many legs does it have?

How many body segments?

How is the colour related to its environment – is it camouflaged well?

Does it have wings?

How does it move?

How does it eat?

How many eyes does it have and how are they formed?

Does it have antennae?

How does it sense its environment?

Where was it found? How is it adapted to its environment?

9. Visit www.naturedetectives.org.uk or www.wildlifetrusts.org to identify the minibeasts and find fact files

