

Minibeast Key



Woods Mill, Henfield,
West Sussex BN5 9SD
www.sussexwt.org.uk
01273 492630

1.	Does it have legs?	Yes No	Go to 2. Go to 14.
2.	Does it have 6 legs?	Yes No	Go to 3. Go to 10.
3.	Is its body divided into segments more or less the same size?	Yes No	It is a larva of some sort. Go to 4.
4.	Does it have hard wing cases?	Yes No	Go to 5. Go to 7.
5.	Does it have a pointed nose with its antennae at the end?	Yes No	It is a weevil. Go to 6.
6.	Does it have pincers on the end of its abdomen?	Yes No	It is an earwig. It is some other sort of beetle.
7.	Does it have a pinched waist?	Yes No	It is an ant Go to 8.
8.	Is it between 1mm and 2mm long with a springing fork tucked under its abdomen?	Yes No	It is a springtail. Go to 9.
9.	Does it have only two wings?	Yes No	It is a fly of some sort, or a midge or a gnat. It is a plant bug.
10.	Does it have 8 legs?	Yes No	Go to 11. Go to 12.
11.	Is its body clearly divided into two sections?	Yes No	It is a spider. It is a mite.
12.	Is it long and thin with lots of segments?	Yes No	Go to 13. It is a woodlouse
13.	Does it have 2 pairs of legs per segment?	Yes No	It is a millipede. It is a centipede.
14.	Does it have a shell?	Yes No	It is a snail. Go to 15.
15.	Is its body divided into segments?	Yes No	Go to 16. It is a slug.
16.	Is it fairly long and worm-like with tiny bristles on its underside?	Yes No	It is a worm. It is a larva of some sort, eg. a maggot or a leatherjacket