Dear Parents,

On Sunday, February 5th we will be starting our next unit of inquiry entitled “Minibeasts”. This unit comes under the transdisciplinary theme of “How We Share the Planet”, and we will be looking at the concepts of form, function and connection. The central idea behind this unit is “*Minibeasts play a role in our world*”. We will be focusing on the following lines of inquiry:

1) types of minibeasts;

2) the roles of minibeasts in our world; and

3) how humans and minibeasts interact.

The term minibeasts refers to small invertebrate animals – or bugs. For our investigations, we will be looking at two categories of bugs:

1. Insects: animals having 3 body parts, six legs, two antennae (example: bee, fly, cricket, ladybug, grasshopper, ant, butterfly, cockroach, etc.)
2. Arachnids: animals having two body parts and eight legs (example: spiders, scorpions, ticks, mites, etc.)

Some of the questions related to the unit are:

1. What are minibeasts?
2. What do they look like?
3. How are they the same/different?
4. a) Why are there minibeasts?

b) How do they help us?

c) What would it be like if we didn’t have minibeasts?

1. Where do they live and why?
2. How do we respect minibeasts?

Throughout the course of the unit your child will be engaged in a variety of hands-on activities that will support different developmental skills and concepts including, fine motor, vocabulary, communication skills, and research skills, just to name a few. We appreciate your assistance and support in your child’s education by encouraging discussions or conversations about this unit if they arise at home. We request that you model respect for all creatures by not harming any bugs in front of your child. If your child discovers a minibeast at home, please feel free to send it to school for the class to observe and explore.

Sincerely,

Kindergarten 1 Teachers