Investigating Invertebrates

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Flying Colours



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Chapter 1

Learning About Invertebrates

Today we learned about invertebrates. Mum said there were lots of invertebrates in our garden, so we went outside to find some.

We looked at them with our magnifying glass. We went on the Internet and learned more about invertebrates too!



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What Are Invertebrates?

Invertebrates are animals that have no backbone. Insects and spiders are invertebrates. They have hard skin on the outside of their body, called an **exoskeleton.**



a fly



a spider

Worms and snails are invertebrates with soft bodies. Sometimes they have a shell to protect their body.

Lots of invertebrates live in the sea.



a sea slug

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Chapter 2

Our First Invertebrate

We saw our first invertebrate above our front door. It was a daddy-longlegs spider.

Daddy-longlegs spiders hang upside-down from their webs. Then they catch insects and other spiders to eat.

Daddy-longlegs bite their **prey**, but their fangs are too small to bite people.



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Spiders

Spiders have:

- two body parts
- eight legs
- fangs
- feelers
- **spinnerets,** for spinning webs.



The bird-eating spider is the largest spider in the world. It eats small animals such as frogs and insects.



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Chapter 3

Helpful Beetles

I found an invertebrate that helps us in the garden. It was a ladybird beetle. Ladybirds eat lots of small insects that eat our plants. They eat lots of insect eggs too. Most insects do not eat ladybirds because they have an unpleasant taste.



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Beetles

Beetles are insects. All insects are invertebrates.

Insects have:

- three body parts
- two antennae
- six legs
- an exoskeleton.



a jewel beetle

Beetles have wings too. Some beetles are very small, while other beetles are huge!

There are more kinds of beetle than any other insect.

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