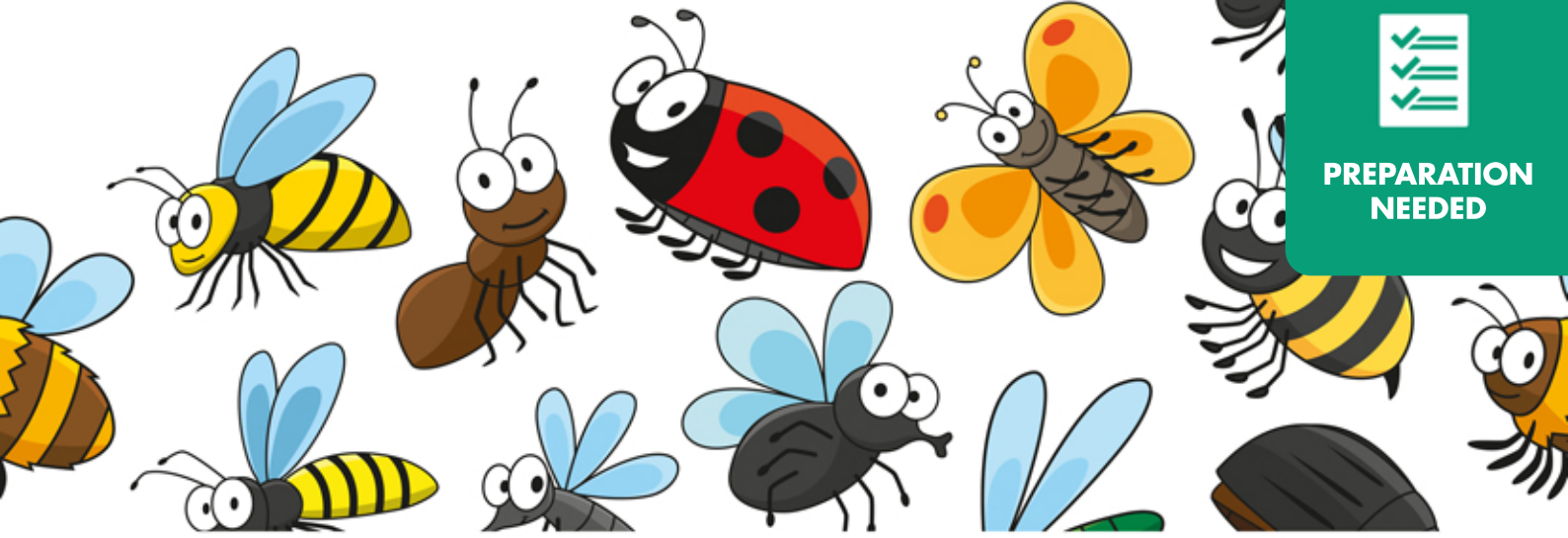


ANT FARM

PART OF THE BUGS & INSECTS THEMED PROGRAMME



GETTING INTO THE ACTIVITY

Create an ant farm and observe how ants build tunnels and use teamwork, close-up in a jar.

- 1) Collect and sieve soil into a bowl. This will make sure you have a very fine soil. Mix in a handful of sand and moisten it with a small amount of water.
- 2) Tip the soil into a jam jar (or similar). Leave a couple of centimetres gap at the top of the jar.
- 3) Use a safety pin to make some air holes in the lid of the jar. Remember, these don't want to be too big otherwise the ants will escape!
- 4) Search for a group of ants. When you find some, carefully encourage them onto a leaf and then into your ant farm.
- 5) Keep the ant farm in a cool, dark place out of direct sunlight. Every few days give the ants a small amount of sugar / jam / honey.

Let children take their ant farms home and keep an eye on them. Can they see them digging tunnels in the jar? What happens when you place the food in the jar? Make sure to release the ants back into the wild after a week.

This activity is part of the 'Go Wild' Challenge, encouraging children to get outdoors and adventurous. Check out all the challenges and how to achieve Bronze, Silver and Gold awards by heading to <https://boys-brigade.org.uk/go-wild>

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Jam Jar (or similar)
- Safety Pin
- Soil & Sand
- Jam / Sugar / Honey
- Sieve

KEEPING EVERYONE SAFE

Maintain social distancing as required. Shared equipment should be kept to a minimum.

When using shared equipment, hands should be washed both before and after the activity.