‘Child1’:

My name is ‘Child1’.

Speaker 2:

‘Child1’.

‘Child2’:

My name is ‘Child2’.

Speaker 2:

‘Child1’ and ‘Child2’, lovely. And do you want to tell me what you like in your free time? What's your favourite hobby?

‘Child1’:

Well, I like singing, I like dancing. I like swimming, singing, dancing, gymnastics, yeah.

Speaker 2:

Wow, amazing. How about you, ‘Child2’?

‘Child2’:

I like playing football and I like spending time with my brother in my back garden.

Speaker 2:

Cool. So do you remember when I came to the school, which was brilliant, about a month ago, and we went down to the woods.

‘Child2’:

Yeah.

Speaker 2:

It was a very hot day. It was when it was still really nice hot weather and we looked for mini beasts. What do you remember about the mini beast hunts?

‘Child1’:

Well, I remember that we had that, what was that thing called again?

Speaker 2:

A pooter?

‘Child1’:

Yeah, the pooter. I like using the pooter and I caught a daddy long legs.

Speaker 2:

Oh, wow. Cool.

‘Child2’:

Well, what I remember was me and Billy were trading slugs.

Speaker 2:

Trading slugs?

‘Child2’:

Yeah, trading mini beasts. And surprisingly I found a dead wood louse.

Speaker 2:

A dead wood louse?

‘Child1’:

Yeah. We also found a dead squirrel with maggots.

Speaker 2:

A dead squirrel with maggots?

‘Child1’:

Yeah.

Speaker 2:

Wow, oh, I don't think I saw that.

‘Child2’:

Yeah, I saw that.

Speaker 2:

That sounds pretty gross.

‘Child1’:

It was pretty gross.

‘Child2’:

I saw some flies over it.

‘Child1’:

The maggots were going up it's bottom.

Speaker 2:

The maggots were going... Oh God, that's so gross. That's the kind of thing you want to unsee.

‘Child1’:

Not [inaudible 00:01:26].

Speaker 2:

You don't want it in your head.

‘Child2’:

I see flies. So I saw another squirrel with its mouth open. The maggots were eating its teeth.

Speaker 2:

Oh, no, that's gross, isn't it? So you were trading slugs. So you were swapping different slugs?

‘Child2’:

Yeah, we were also trading wood louses and mini beasts.

Speaker 2:

And why did you do that? Was that because you wanted lots of different slugs?

‘Child2’:

Well no, it's because me and Billy always trade our mini beasts.

Speaker 2:

You always trade them?

‘Child2’:

Yeah. Sometimes we just get fed up with the same mini beasts, so we just trade them.

Speaker 2:

Oh, so when do you do that? Is that when you do Forest School?

‘Child2’:

Yeah, but we also do that when we have some free time if we're outside.

Speaker 2:

Okay. So you look for mini beasts in your spare time?

‘Child2’:

Yeah.

Speaker 2:

And who's Billy? Is that your brother?

‘Child2’:

No.

‘Child1’:

No.

Speaker 2:

Oh no, its...

‘Child1’:

His friend.

Speaker 2:

Your friend Billy. Cool.

‘Child2’:

He's very annoying sometimes.

Speaker 2:

So where do you like looking for mini beasts? Where do you go and look for mini beasts?

‘Child2’:

In the copse over there?

‘Child1’:

Yeah. There's a copse area and there's the Forest School area down there.

‘Child2’:

But we also go to the Forest School area when it first built up.

Speaker 2:

Wow. And look for mini beasts then. And do you have any equipment? Do you have a tray or a pot or anything?

‘Child2’:

No.

‘Child1’:

No.

Speaker 2:

So you just use your hands?

‘Child1’:

Yeah.

‘Child2’:

Yeah, but we have a look at them and then we swap with each other.

‘Child1’:

We might not pick them up, we just have a look at them.

Speaker 2:

Oh yeah, just look at them walking around the ground.

‘Child2’:

Yeah, but me and Billy just pick them up. We don't care what kind of animal it is, daddy long legs, I don't really care.

Speaker 2:

Sure, and what do you like about looking for mini beasts?

‘Child2’:

I really like how they just crawl around and camouflage in the stuff around them.

Speaker 2:

So you like watching them moving around?

‘Child2’:

Yeah and also I also I would say their skin since it just feels so nice.

Speaker 2:

They feel nice on your hands? Do you like how they feel when they're crawl over your hands?

‘Child2’:

Especially the wood louse.

‘Child1’:

I like how that you don't know what you're going to find. You don't know what you're going to find.

Speaker 2:

Oh, interesting. So you like the element of surprise?

‘Child1’:

Yeah.

Speaker 2:

Wow. And do you like looking for mini beats in your spare time?

‘Child1’:

Yeah. Because when you came, I found this little green insect. I was trying to draw it, but it was too small and I couldn't find it anymore in the pooter.

Speaker 2:

So it was really small and green?

‘Child1’:

Yeah, I couldn't find it anymore in the pooter.

Speaker 2:

I wonder if it's a green fly. Did it have little wings?

‘Child1’:

Yeah.

Speaker 2:

It sounds like a greenfly.

‘Child1’:

Yeah. But then it disappeared in the pooter, so I couldn't find it anymore.

Speaker 2:

Yeah, they do get a bit hard to find once they're in the pooter. And can you remember any of the other mini beasts that you found when we did the mini beast hunt?

‘Child2’:

Yeah.

Speaker 2:

Because you found quite a lot of different things, didn't you?

‘Child1’:

Yeah. Daddy long legs, the spider, the greenfly, a worm, centipedes, a millipede and some slugs.

Speaker 2:

So lots of different ones.

‘Child1’:

And [inaudible 00:04:27].

Speaker 2:

Were there any that you found?

‘Child2’:

Yeah, I found... You know how there's spiders?

Speaker 2:

Yeah.

‘Child2’:

Well, I found one that's half green and half red.

Speaker 2:

Cool. Amazing.

‘Child2’:

And we saw little sensors out of it, so we just sucked up in the Pooter

Speaker 2:

Pooter, yeah.

‘Child2’:

Yeah, it was very interesting. Since it started eating some of the animals in there.

Speaker 2:

It started eating some of the animals? What did you see it eating?

‘Child2’:

It was eating the fly we caught.

Speaker 2:

Oh?

‘Child2’:

Yeah. Well, it was...

Speaker 2:

And what did you think of that when you saw it eating something? Was that yucky or interesting?

‘Child2’:

I found it interesting since spiders actually don't eat flies.

‘Child1’:

They suck their blood out.

‘Child2’:

But what it was doing was it was sucking the blood, and putting it to one side, it was eating the actual fly, and then sucking the blood.

Speaker 2:

Amazing. So was it pulling it apart with its legs?

‘Child2’:

No, it was pulling apart with its fangs.

Speaker 2:

With its fangs, yeah.

‘Child2’:

Yeah. But when it came to the eyes, those little things, it ripped out of its [inaudible 00:05:46]. I found it very interesting.

Speaker 2:

What do you think of that? Do you think that's interesting or yucky?

‘Child1’:

Well, I know that daddy long legs, they're the most poisonous spider, but they don't have any fangs to bite so they're not really poisonous.

‘Child2’:

But I found a spider, but I think it's rare since I have a spider book and when I got home, I went through all the pages.

Speaker 2:

Amazing.

‘Child2’:

And I did not see it.

Speaker 2:

Couldn't find it. Wow.

‘Child2’:

So I think that's a very rare, since I've never seen those types before.

Speaker 2:

Yeah, that's amazing. Yeah, you need to try and get a photo of it, then you can put it online and people will help you identify it.

‘Child2’:

Yeah, I'm not allowed online though, since I'm eight.

Speaker 2:

Oh, okay, can't do that then? Ah.

‘Child2’:

And Nan's rule is when you are 10, I'm allowed to.

Speaker 2:

That's when you're allowed to?

‘Child2’:

Yeah.

Speaker 2:

Okay. Were any of the mini beasts that you found yucky or scary?

‘Child2’:

No.

‘Child1’:

I didn't find any scary. But sometimes I find snails gross.

Speaker 2:

Snails gross? Are there any other mini beasts that you find a bit gross?

‘Child2’:

I found slugs, snails...

‘Child1’:

Worms, maybe, because...

Speaker 2:

Worms?

‘Child1’:

Yeah, I don't really like them.

Speaker 2:

So is it slimy things?

‘Child1’:

Yeah. I don't really like slimy things.

Speaker 2:

You don't like slimy things, but it sounds like you just like all of them and don't mind the slimy ones.

‘Child2’:

No.

Speaker 2:

And did you feel differently about mini beasts after we did the hunt? Or did you feel the same about them?

‘Child2’:

I feel the same.

Speaker 2:

You felt the same? How about you?

‘Child2’:

But I did feel a little bit different with spiders.

Speaker 2:

A little bit different with spiders. In what kind of way?

‘Child2’:

I'm going to let ‘Child1’ talk first.

Speaker 2:

‘Child1’.

‘Child1’:

I felt like you can find anything. So you could always have a look around.

Speaker 2:

So it made you feel like you could find more things than you thought before?

‘Child1’:

Yeah.

Speaker 2:

Oh, interesting.

‘Child2’:

There's a pen here.

Speaker 2:

And what you were going to add? Something that you felt a bit different about spiders. In what kind of way?

‘Child2’:

I love them, but after I found the red and green one, I felt really, really happy. But I also felt disappointed since I don't think that's a spider, since it wasn't in my spider book.

Speaker 2:

Oh, I see. So you were disappointed that you didn't find it in your book?

‘Child2’:

Yeah, but I don't think that's a real spider, I don't think it's an an insect. I don't know.

Speaker 2:

Okay. So it's that annoying thing of seeing something interesting, but not knowing what it is.

‘Child2’:

Yeah, since I've looked all through my animal books.

Speaker 2:

And you can't find it anywhere.

‘Child2’:

I have all the animal books.

Speaker 2:

It's a bit frustrating.

‘Child2’:

Yeah.

Speaker 2:

Well, listen, try and get a photograph of it and then ask the teacher to email it to me and I can try and find out what it's if you like. So have you looked for any mini beasts since we did the hunt?

‘Child2’:

Yeah.

‘Child1’:

Yeah.

Speaker 2:

Yeah? What have you done?

‘Child2’:

I found a whole-

Speaker 2:

Because you do Forest School here every week, don't you?

‘Child1’:

Well, we haven't been doing Forest School very often, but when we have free times we go down to the copse. I've been looking around.

Speaker 2:

Wow, that's lovely that you're allowed down there in your free time.

‘Child2’:

I found a whole herd of woodlouse.

Speaker 2:

A whole herd of woodlouse, wow, that's a nice way describe them, a herd.

‘Child1’:

Are they called a herd?

Speaker 2:

I don't know if they've got a collective name, but if they did, they should be a herd. That sounds really cool.

‘Child2’:

Yeah, [inaudible 00:09:09] army. But I found that same spider again.

Speaker 2:

Oh, you found it again. Wow, cool.

‘Child2’:

Yeah. But this time it wasn't actually eating the wood louse or the blood [inaudible 00:09:13].

Speaker 2:

Oh, okay. Weird.

‘Child2’:

What I found was it was like a very decent insect.

Speaker 2:

Okay, cool.

‘Child2’:

I found it decent, very calm. When I went to approach it didn't start attacking me like it did last time.

Speaker 2:

Okay, cool. What do you normally like to do outdoors? So when you are not at school, what would you normally do outdoors? Let Arianna speak first.

‘Child1’:

I would usually maybe... I like playing a lot and usually in school usually, outdoors Billy chases us a lot. I find that quite fun though.

Speaker 2:

So you like playing running around games.

‘Child1’:

And Hide and Seek and things like that.

Speaker 2:

And what kind of stuff would you do outdoors with your family? Would you go for walks with them or go to the park?

‘Child1’:

Yeah, I like going... Sometimes we might have time to go to the swimming pool, because I really, really like swimming.

Speaker 2:

Cool. How about you? What kind of stuff would you do outdoors? Sounds like you spend a lot of time looking for mini beasts.

‘Child2’:

Yeah, but what I also do-

Speaker 2:

Oh, and you like doing football, don't you, you said?

‘Child2’:

Yeah, but that's not it. What I actually do was... I have a shed that's filled with spiders.

Speaker 2:

Yeah.

‘Child2’:

I looked at all the spiders to see the exact same one I found down there and I did though.

Speaker 2:

Yeah.

‘Child2’:

But that wasn't just all, it.

Speaker 2:

Okay.

‘Child2’:

There was actually more than one of them.

Speaker 2:

Wow.

‘Child2’:

There was like 13 of them. And then we're actually eating a fly. But one of the spiders wasn't.

Speaker 2:

Cool. Okay, I'm going to stop you there, because I've got one final question. What do your parents or other members of your family think of mini beasts, do you reckon? Are they scared of them? Do they like them?

‘Child2’:

This is going to be easy.

‘Child1’:

Well, my mum... Once we thought we found a slow worm on our street. I think it was a slow worm.

‘Child2’:

Oh, we found a slow worm, it was in our back garden [inaudible 00:11:15].

‘Child1’:

But my dad said when he was little he wanted to be a vet. And my mum said, "I can't imagine you with your hand stuck up a cow's bum." Because he hates animals, so I'm not sure he would be very [inaudible 00:11:26].

Speaker 2:

So does he hate creepy crawlies as well?

‘Child1’:

Yeah, he doesn't even like our Guinea pigs much. So he's not much of an animal-

Speaker 2:

And what about your mum? What does she think of creepy crawlies?

‘Child1’:

Yeah, if you found something pretty cool, she would love it.

Speaker 2:

She would have a look at it, she wouldn't be scared of it.

‘Child1’:

And my sister, Tessa, she loves anything she finds.

Speaker 2:

Cool.

‘Child1’:

Yeah, she really likes mini beasts and things like that.

Speaker 2:

And what about your parents?

‘Child2’:

My parents, they hate mini beasts, especially Nan.

Speaker 2:

They hate mini beasts. They don't share your love of creepy crawlies.

‘Child2’:

If she sees a slug or a snail, she's getting a hammer or a knife.

‘Child1’:

Ew, no.

‘Child2’:

And she'll even get slug thing that will kill a slug.

‘Child1’:

No, I don't want to kill it, but because that would just make it even more gruesome.

‘Child2’:

My Nan hates them.

Speaker 2:

Wow. Well, thank you so much.

‘Child1’:

I don't want to cut them.