

### Essential information

**Age range:**

Key stage 1 and 2

**Group size:**

Whole class

**Time needed:**

30 minutes

**Curriculum links:**

Science units: 2B Plants and animals in the local environment; 2C Variation

**Setting:**

Classroom

**Contact us:**

For enquiries regarding the activity sheets, please contact Emily Jones on:  
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For enquiries regarding stag beetle biology and ecology, please contact Deborah Harvey on:  
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## Split-pin stag beetle- leader's notes

### Background to activity

In this fun activity children will design and create their own split-pin stag beetle. This is especially good for children who may think beetles are boring or scary!

### Materials needed

- Materials to decorate e.g. pens, glitter, stickers
- Split-pins
- Scissors

### Running the activity

Children can either draw their own stag beetle or you could provide the template (available in this pack). If they draw their own, the mandibles and legs need to be drawn separately, and with ends large enough to be able to have a split pin through them. When the beetle pieces have been decorated and cut out, make holes at the body end of the legs and mandibles, and in corresponding places on the beetle body, and affix the legs and mandibles with split-pins.



### Extension activities

- Design and make other split-pin insects
- Compare the stag beetle with other insects
- Talk about how and why the male and female stag beetle are different