

## Pipe cleaner stag beetle- leader's notes

### Background to activity

In this fun activity children will create their own pipe cleaner stag beetle. This is especially good for familiarising children with the body parts of the stag beetle, and for children who may think beetles are boring or scary!

### Materials needed

- Pipe cleaners
- Scissors



### Running the activity

Each child will need about 5 pipe cleaners. The head/mandible section is made separately to the middle body and wing case section. These two sections are both made with one pipe cleaner each, and then joined together to make the main body of the beetle with short sections of pipe cleaner. About a third to a half of a pipe cleaner will be needed for the intersecting line of the wing cases. Six equal length pieces (about 6cm each) will be required for legs. For younger children, it may be best to pre-cut the joining, wing case divider and leg pieces.

### Extension activities

- Design other pipe cleaner insects
- Make pipe cleaner larvae, pupae and eggs and affix them to lolly sticks to perform the stag beetle life cycle

### Essential information

**Age range:** Key stage 1 and 2

**Group size:** Whole class

**Time needed:** 30 minutes

**Curriculum links:** Just for fun

**Science-**

Year 2: Animals, including humans

Year 3: Animals, including humans

Can support **Art and design** and **Design and technology** skills

**Setting:** Classroom