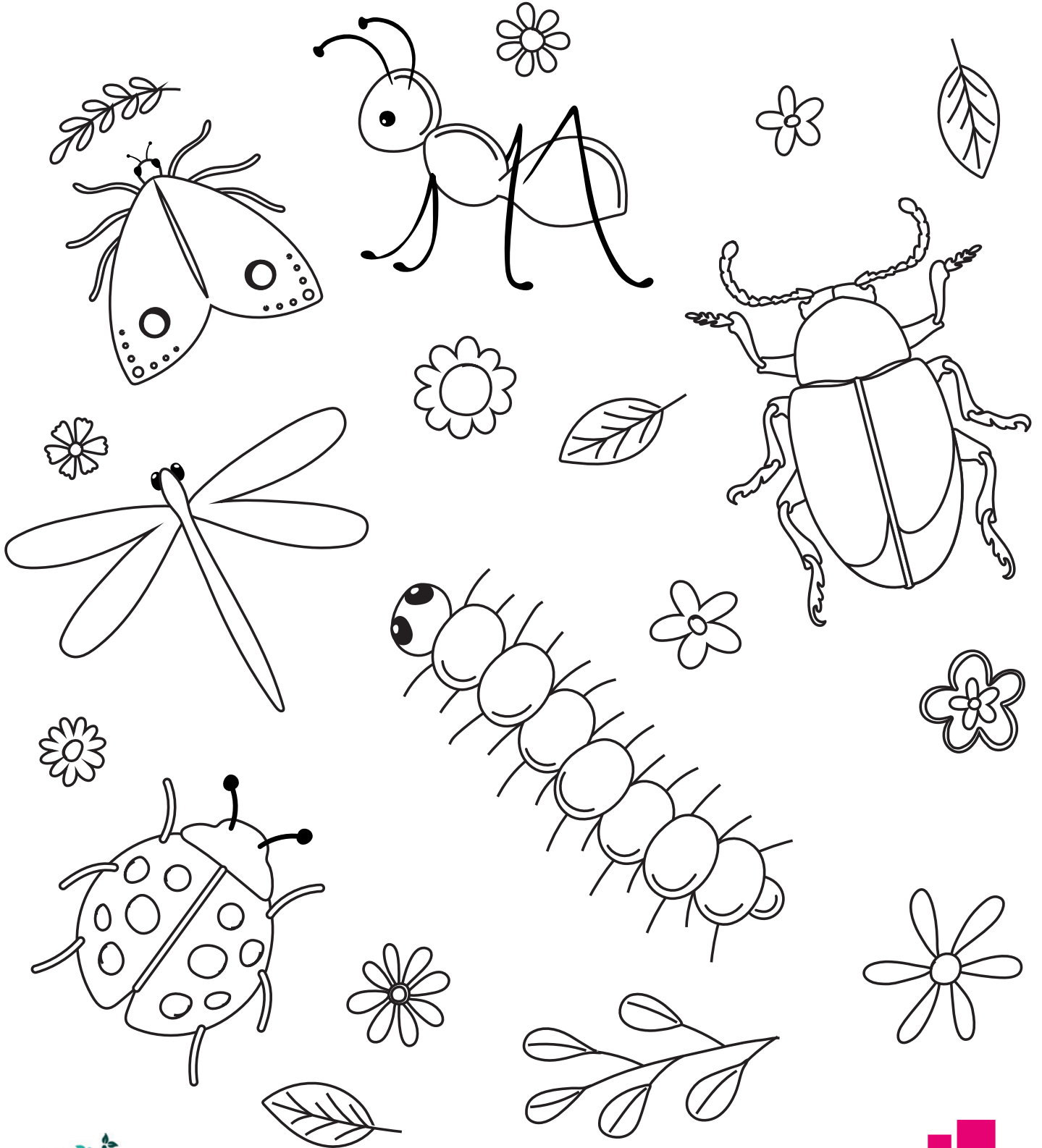
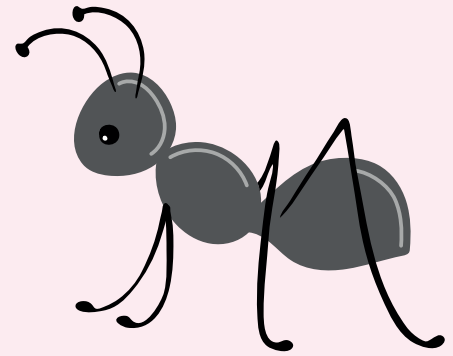


Colour in the bugs

Get creative and add colour to the variety of bugs below.



How to make a bug hotel



Creating a bug hotel out of a recycled plastic pot is a fantastic project for kids! It provides shelter for insects and other minibeasts. Let's get started.

Materials needed

- Recycled plastic pot: Choose a clean plastic pot (such as an old plant pot)
- Natural materials
 - Twigs and sticks
 - Moss
 - Hollow sticks (such as bamboo or reeds)
- Scissors or pruning shears: To cut materials to size

Step-by-step guide

1. Prepare the plastic pot

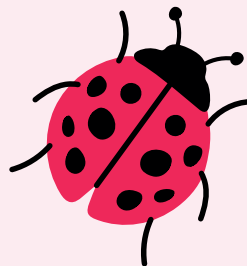
- Clean the plastic pot and ensure there are no sharp edges
- Remove any labels or stickers

2. Fill the plastic pot

- Stuff the plastic pot with different natural materials:
 - + Twigs and sticks: Create cosy spaces for insects to hide
 - + Moss: Line some compartments with moss for insulation
 - + Hollow sticks: These serve as perfect nesting spots for solitary bees

3. Position the bug hotel

- Place your bug hotel in a sheltered spot on your patch (no more than a metre off the ground)
- Ensure the front end of the pot points slightly downwards to drain out any water



Bug hotel benefits

- Ladybirds, bees, woodlice and spiders will appreciate the cosy spaces and offer them welcome protection from predators!

Remember, bug hotels don't need to be grand - piles of natural materials can create cosy homes too!