

Welcome to Pikkuprovinssi's Löytöretki!



Löytöretki is a trail around the Törnävänsaari and Ruutipuisto nature conservation area, with lots to do, see and discover. Enjoy the spring nature, get moving and learn new things! The trail can be walked on your own from 13 to 18 May and it's approx. 1 km long. Part of the trail goes along a forest path and is not accessible. This year we will get to know the life of bugs and along the route, there will be 20 different bugs, can you find them all?

Please respect the unique nature of Ruutipuisto and the birds' nesting peace by walking only on marked trails. Welcome to the adventure!

## **1. BUTTERFLIES**

### Info:

Many of our first spring butterflies overwinter as adults and are ready to take flight as soon as the weather warms up. The first butterflies of spring are a bit worn out; their life cycle started already in August of the previous year. The life cycle of a butterfly is a great little miracle of nature: The butterfly lays eggs, which grow into caterpillars, which cocoon and hatch into adult butterflies. In that process, the caterpillar gets wings! See the stages of butterfly development in the picture:

## Task:

## Do you recognize these most common butterflies in the yard?

Answers: 1. Common brimstone butterfly, 2. Red admiral butterfly, 3. European peacock butterfly, 4. Cabbage butterfly, 5. Small tortoiseshell butterflysuruvaippa, 6. Mourning cloak butterfly

# 2. ANTS



## Info:

Ants are very adaptable animals and they have spread all over the world. There are about 60 different ant species in Finland. Ants live in well-organized colonies. Each colony has one or more queens, workers, who are all female and specialize in various tasks, and males called "drones", whose job is only to fertilize the queens. Only the queen and the drones have wings. Ants can carry large loads, up to 20 times their own weight!

The mound-building ants live mainly in coniferous forests. One colony may populate to millions of ants and several colonies connected by a network of paths. A few hundred thousand ants live in one mound. At the colonies' borders, the ants sensitively start a fight to defend their territory. The mound is only the above-ground part of the nest, the underground part with passages and chambers can be much bigger. The eggs are hatched precisely in the underground parts. For food, ants catch insects and other invertebrates. A large mound nest can be inhabited for up to fifty years.

#### Task:

0

Watch the activities of the ants. Do ants carry something? Where and in what kind of place is the mound nest built?

## 3. BUGS

#### Info:

An old forest with rotting trees is like a huge bug hotel! Much of the life in the forest is hidden. For example, there is a lot of activity in the soil. Huge amounts of bacteria, fungal mycelium, insects, worms, and much more live there. What does the forest mean to its inhabitants? Just any forest will not do for the creatures of the forest. There needs to be just the right kind of food and shelter. Each species has their own requirements. Many forest inhabitants need rotting wood either for food, shelter, or a place for their offspring to grow.

#### Task:

#### Do you recognize these bugs that live in forests?

Answers: 1. Harvestman, 2. Dragonfly, 3. Mosquito, 4. Wasp, 5. Bumble-bee, 6. Bee, 7. Ladybug, 8. Forest bug, 9. Water strider

### **4. BUMBLE BEES**

#### Info

What do we need bumble bees for?

Bees fly from one flower to another, collecting nectar while pollinating the flowers. Pollination means that pollen is transferred from one flower to another with the bee, and thanks to pollination, flowers develop into new flowers, seeds, fruits, and berries. Blueberries and their flowers that bloom in early summer also need pollination by bees so that they can develop into blueberries. You wouldn't be able to eat blueberries without bees!

#### Task:

#### Which animals eat berries?

Answer: Besides humans, the berries are also eaten by blackbirds, badgers, and bears.

Do you know why the bumblebee is the main pollinator of the blueberry?A. A bumblebee can fit inside a blueberry flower.B. Blueberry pollen sticks particularly well to bumblebee fur.C. A bumblebee can vibrate at the right frequency.

Correct answer C: The bumblebee pollinates blueberries efficiently by buzzing at just the right frequency. The swirl created by the wings causes the blueberry flower to release its pollen. This so-called vibration pollination helps to better pollinate, for example, blueberries, tomatoes and cranberries. (Sources: Yle: Suuri porriäisvisa. Vihreä lippu)

### **5. BIODNERSITY**

#### Info

In the middle of the 19th century, the cows and bulls of Törnävä Manor pastured on Törnävänsaari. In the dialect of South Ostrobothnia, a cow is called itikka. Today, Törnävänsaari is home to a lot of different types of insects. Bugs are part of diverse nature and diverse nature is a vital thing. We humans have various professions and for everything to work in society, that's how it should be. There are farmers, cleaners, garbage truck drivers, doctors, bakers. Everyone has their place and their task that is needed. Also in nature, different organisms have their place and task, like different professions. Earthworms act like gardeners loosening the soil, bumblebees act like mail carriers when they spread pollen from flower to flower, and woodpeckers act like house builders when they carve new holes in trees. And when everything works together, there is water, air, food, and places to live for everyone. All of us: humans, hares, and insects have the right to exist and we just have to adjust our lives so that we can all coexist here.

Source: Vihreä lippu.

#### Task:

How do bugs move? What bug crawls? What flies? What jumps? What's climbing? What other ways of moving can you come up with? Move across the bridge like a bug!



## 6. BUG NAME



Info & task Bugs have funny names! Based on your birthday, see what your nickname would be

January = Buzzing February = Jumping March = Swirling April = Hiding May = Stinging June = Roaring July = Creeping August = Flying September = Horned October = Winged November = Nibbling December = Catching

- 1. Ground beetle
- 2. Pantaloon bee
- 3. Essex skipper
- 4. Shield bug
- 5. Drinker moth
- 6. Dor beetle
- 7. Common earwig
- 8. Large skipper
- 9. Bush-cricket
- 10. Longhorn beetle
- 11. Beautiful demoiselle
- 12. White dwarf moth
- 13. Lesser water-measurer
- 14. Water treader
- 15. Wharf borer
- 16. Broad-nosed weevil



- 17. Red-breasted carrion beetle
- 18. Viburnum leaf beetle
- 19. Timberman beetle
- 20. Rufus beetle
- 21. Cherry slug
- 22. Gall wasp
- 23. Scentless plant bug
- 24. Paleartic true bug
- 25. Common earwig
- 26. The gray earthworm
- 27. Weevil
- 28. Caddisfly
- 29. Hairy-eyed cranefly
- 30. Bristly millipede
- 31. Centipede



### 7. SPIDERS



### Info

Spiders can be identified by having 8 legs. Spiders have multiple eyes and usually have a large hind body. Spiders use webs for many purposes, e.g. for catching insects. The web structure of different spider species is different. The spider builds the web frame first, and then the spider silk is added. That's why the web sticks everywhere when you bump into it. Spiders are an important part of the food web, eating various insects and being food for other animals themselves.

### Task:

The spiders in the area also wanted to participate in building the Löytöretki trail! The spider web is sticky anyway, so try to get through without touching the web.

Sources: Yle oppiminen, 2012. Helsinki University Science Education Center 2018.



# 8. THE END OF THE ROUTE, HANU POEM

### Info and task

You have reached the last stop of the Löytöretki trail. Thanks for joining the adventure! Let's do one more observation task at the end: take a pen and paper from the bag and write a Haivu poem on it according to the instructions below, you can also write the poem in your phone's notes.

## **Observe:**

4 things you will see 3 sounds you hear 2 scents you can smell 1 thing you feel (feeling or sensation) Write your observations on their own lines:

\_\_\_\_; \_

The Haivu observation poem is ready!

Come and show your Haivu poem on the Pikkuprovinssi festival day on May 18. from 12 to 16 at the info point, and you will receive a small gift for your poem!