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Opening extract from
Atlas of Minature Adventures

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Bekonscot has welcomed over 14 million visitors since 1929, including the Queen, who used to visit on her birthday as a child.

TAKE A TRIP BACK IN TIME AT BEKONSCOT MODEL VILLAGE

Welcome to a miniature wonderland! The world's first model village opened in 1929 in the garden of British accountant Roland Callingham. Now, 90 years on, this picture-perfect 1930s timewarp has more than 200 mini buildings, 1,000 animals, over 3,000 tiny inhabitants, and hundreds of moving vehicles and models. There are houses, castles, farms, docks, a railway, a racecourse, a fairground and even a burning cottage. The scenes are crammed with little details to spot, so keep your eyes peeled!



The railway that runs through Bekonscot is one of the largest model railways in the UK.

SIZE UP THE SMALLEST BIRD IN THE WORLD

Hovering among the flowers of Cuba's colourful forests is the bee hummingbird. It measures only 5.7 centimetres long and weighs just 1.6 grams, which is half the weight of a penny! The smallest bird in the world also has the smallest nest in the world (the size of a thimble) and lays the smallest egg in the world (the size of a pea)!

The bee hummingbird must feed constantly to gain enough energy to survive. It eats over half its body weight in food per day!

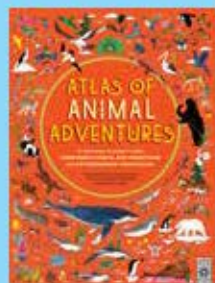
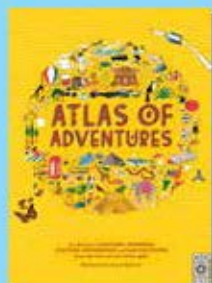
This tiny dynamo can fly for 20 hours without stopping.

This amazing bird can flap its wings 80 times per second, which is faster than the human eye can see.

Despite its size, this hummingbird can fly at speeds of 30 miles per hour.



OTHER TITLES IN THE **ATLAS OF ADVENTURES** SERIES



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