



Dear Educator,

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The “Ladybugs” unit offers 17 pages.

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# Ladybugs



# Ladybugs



There are more than four thousand species of ladybugs in the world. Ladybugs come in many colors. Some are red, yellow or orange with black spots. Some are black with orange spots. Some have spots of pink, yellow, white, orange and black. Other kinds of colors are mostly or entirely black, brown, or gray.

There are more than eighty kinds of ladybugs in Europe and more than one hundred and fifty varieties in the United States.

Ladybugs hibernate in the winter. This means that ladybugs are inactive during cold weather. Their body functions slow down. The temperature of the ladybugs drop to a very low degree. When ladybugs are inactive they conserve energy. This helps them to survive the cold winter weather.

When cold weather approaches, ladybugs hide in many different places. They hide under loose tree bark, on old trees, in corners of wooden sheds, and sometimes in the house. Ladybugs hibernate with other ladybugs.



When the weather warms up in the springtime, ladybugs become active again. They appear in many different places. Many ladybugs can be found in the garden and on plants and flowers. They can often be seen in clusters on fences.

Color the word. Use red with black dots.

ladybug

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The larva continues to grow. As it gets bigger, the skin once again gets too tight. This skin splits and falls off the larva. The new skin has orange markings. The larva changes skin four times while it is growing.



**When the larva is full grown it stops eating.**

**It is now ready for its next stage in development.**

**The larva rests itself on the stem of a leaf or twig.**

**It uses a sticky glue like substance from its body to keep it from falling.**

**In about two hours the skin on the larva splits down its back.**

**Now the larva is ready to change into a pupa.**

**This is the third stage of development for a ladybug.**



Write the definition for each word listed below. You may need to use a dictionary.

1. larva? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. pupa \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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## CRISS CROSS

Can you fit these words into the criss cross?  
Use a pencil so you can erase if you need to.

beetles  
lantern

fun  
wings

eggs  
larvae

head  
thorax

