



Ladybugs

Teacher's Guide



IN A NUTSHELL

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SUBJECTS

Fine Arts
Language Arts
Mathematics
Science

This book is designed to provide young students with an introduction to ladybugs. It contains five activities of two to four sessions in length, addressing ladybug life cycle, body structure, defense behavior, eating habits, and benefits to agriculture. Activities include drama, role playing the life of a ladybug, observation, developing insect costumes and models, and discussion.

Many of the activities include keeping and caring for live ladybugs for observation and appreciation. The final activity includes having the students thank the ladybugs for protecting crops.

Opportunities are given for using the activities to teach science concepts such as symmetry and metamorphosis. The book includes full-size reproducible masters and patterns, instructions for preparing and leading the activity, lists of resource books, materials, literary connections, overview, background material, a glossary, and summary outlines of lessons. Illustrations include photographs, drawings, and diagrams.

Grade Level
pre K - 1

Length
80 pages

Date Published
1993

THE **BOTTOM**
L I N E

"This is a cute activity guide for young students; it has a lot of 'doing' components."

What the REVIEWERS Said !	Key Characteristics	Strengths Noted	Other Considerations
	Fairness and Accuracy	Photographs reflect ethnically and racially diverse students. Reviewed nationally by teachers.	Information sources not cited. Favors natural pest management over pesticide use.
	Depth	Introduces themes and concepts, not just facts about ladybugs. Presents connection to local community.	
	Emphasis on Skills Building	Uses comparing, listening, cooperating with others, and creative expression skills.	
	Action Orientation	N o t A p p l i c a b l e .	
	Instructional Soundness	Lessons incorporate a number of teaching strategies and diverse sensory involvement.	Does not list specific goals and objects for lessons.
	Usability	Provides clear instructions. Lists extension opportunities. Materials are clear and easily reproducible.	Time requirements not listed. Table of contents not very detailed.

"Good lessons and activities, but teachers may need to take up the slack on a few items."

"At first it seemed a bit funny to have a whole unit on ladybugs, but the materials do manage to put the ladybug into the larger context of the environment."