

THANKS FOR A GREAT SESSION!

Don't forget to register for:

SUMMER

Kitchen Scientists

Visit the Captain's wonder-filled kitchen and learn about dinosaurs, rockets, bridges and more!

FALL

Adventures at the Zoo

Help Captain Curiosity and his friend Zelda the Zookeeper care for animals and solve science mysteries at the Wonderzoo!

Save \$50

if you re-enroll for the next school year by June 20.

BACKYARD ADVENTURES

LITTLE LAB WEEK 10: LADYBUGS

EVER WONDER . . . IF LADYBUGS ARE HELPFUL?

What we learned this week:

- Ladybugs are insects. Like other beetles, they have a hard "shell" that protects their wings.
- Ladybugs are born from eggs, and go through metamorphosis like butterflies.
- Ladybugs help us by eating harmful insects, like aphids.

Curiosity Circle

This week Captain Curiosity had lots of questions about ladybugs. To help him find the answers, we first pulled ladybugs out of the mystery box and made a chart by putting them in order by the number of spots. Next we learned the answers to these "Ever wonder?" questions: **Ever wonder if all ladybugs are red and have spots?** Ladybugs are most often red with black spots, but some are yellow with black spots, and some are black with red spots. The number of spots a ladybug has depends on its species (there are more than 3000 species of ladybugs). Some ladybugs have as many as 20 spots while others have no spots at all.



It is not true, however, that the number of spots on a ladybug can tell you how old it is. **Ever wonder how we know a ladybug is a beetle?** A beetle has a strong, hard "shell" on its back to protect its wings and body. When a beetle flies, this protective shell splits apart and reveals the wings underneath. Like all insects, beetles also have an exoskeleton, but theirs is especially strong. **Ever wonder how ladybugs are born?** Ladybugs come from eggs.



When the eggs hatch, larvae emerge. These larvae then go through a change ("metamorphosis") into pupae and eventually into adult ladybugs. **Ever wonder how lady bugs help us?** Ladybugs live in many places, including forests, fields, gardens – even your house! They help us by eating bugs, like aphids, mealybugs and mites, that hurt our plants and bother us.

Curiosity Centers

- ◆ **Discovery Activity:** we used ladybug magnet wands to catch and remove "bad bugs" from our garden.
- ◆ **Manipulative Activity:** we put together a ladybug lifecycle puzzle on the magnet wall. We also tossed beanbag dots onto a ladybug target.
- ◆ **Art Activity:** we made ladybug puppets with a hard outer shell to play with at home!

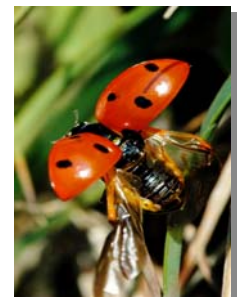
The Roundup & Big Deal

We celebrated our ten weeks together and reviewed what we've learned about science in the backyard, including dogs, horses, baby animals, clouds, wind, the moon, thunder and lightning, shooting stars, rainbows, squirrels and pollination!

Hey, Hey Word of the Day: BEETLE

Curiosity @ Home

Set up your Ladybug Land™ and watch the metamorphosis over the next several weeks. Be sure to let your little friends go when they've grown into fully developed ladybugs! We also hope you'll continue playing with all of your take-home science gear from this session, including your tornado tube, sidewalk chalk, flower garden, flying squirrel glider, doggie headband, wind streamer, hobby horse and meteor-write.



Songs & Poems

C-Zone Song (to the tune "I'm a Little Teapot")
Welcome Song
Welcome to the C-Zone
It's time for us to start
Exploring and learning
We've all got a part
(Spoken) So let's fasten up our lab coats and get curious!

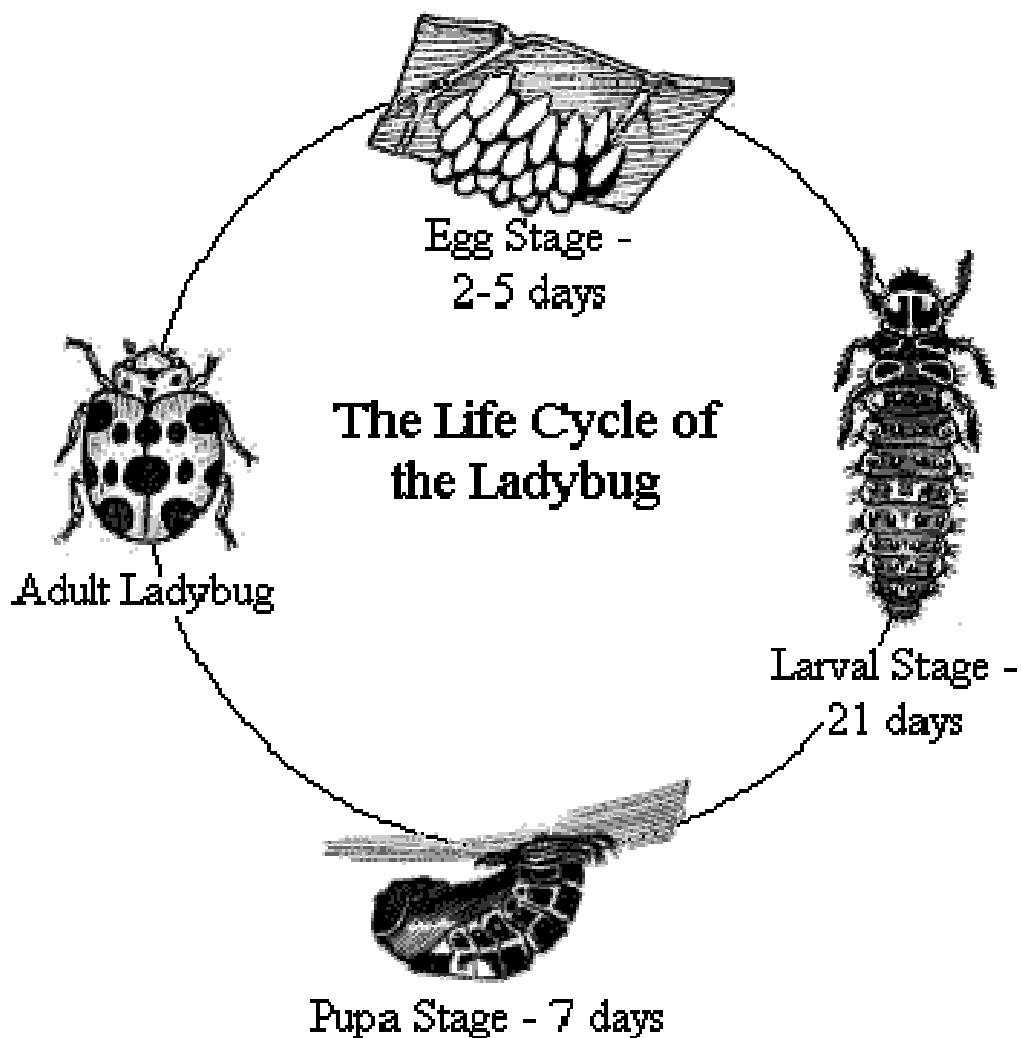
Song to the Captain (to the tune "Wheels on the Bus):
Ladybugs have strong, hard shells(What?)
Strong, hard shells (What?)
Strong, hard shells (What?)
Ladybugs have strong, hard shells (What?)
That's what makes them beetles.

Ladybugs eat harmful bugs (What?)
Harmful bugs (What?)
Harmful bugs (What?)
Ladybugs eat harmful bugs (What?)
That is how they help us!

Ladybug (to the tune of "Clementine")
Saw a ladybug, saw a ladybug,
Saw a ladybug in a tree
It was red with black spots
And it flew right down to me.

C-Zone Goodbye Song
Goodbye from the C-Zone
It's time for us to go
The learning never stops
Now tell me what you know!

L
IS FOR LADYBUG



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