



Lesson: Lively Ladybugs

(To follow Amplify CKLA 2, Knowledge 8: Insects, Lesson 1: Insects Everywhere!)

At a Glance

In this lesson, students respond to a non-fiction text about New Hampshire's state insect by building a fact-covered paper model of a ladybug.

Primary Focus Objectives

- Students will read a non-fiction text about ladybugs.
- Students will re-write important facts and write a story about a ladybug.
- Students will follow directions to assemble a ladybug.

Formative Assessment Standards

- Ladybug facts and stories

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.3

Describe the connection between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.3

Write narratives in which they recount a well-elaborated event or short sequence of events, include details to describe actions, thoughts, and feelings, use temporal words to signal event order, and provide a sense of closure.

Materials

- Vocabulary Card: Beetle
- Focus Text Facts: Lively Ladybugs
- Red and black construction paper
- Glue sticks and scissors
- Brass fasteners (one per student)
- Ladybug shape and fact templates
- Ladybug instruction sheet

Time Needed

One to two 30-40 minute class sessions

Learning Activity

1. **Discuss the Vocabulary Card.** Project or display the vocabulary card and introduce students to the specific beetle that is our state insect. *(5 minutes)*
2. **Read the Focus Text Facts.** Project or distribute Focus Text Facts and read as a whole group or in small reading groups. *(15 minutes)*
3. **Cut out ladybug pieces.** Distribute templates, scissors, and construction paper. Support students as they trace and cut out the shapes needed for their ladybugs. *(10 minutes)*
4. **Write ladybug facts and stories.** Instruct students to choose six facts from the Focus Text Facts and write each on one of the spot facts they traced on lined paper. Then, prompt them to write a "day in the life" short story about a ladybug. *(25 minutes)*
5. **Build ladybugs.** Distribute instruction sheets and glue sticks and support students as they follow the directions to construct their finished ladybugs. *(10 minutes)*



Educator Rationale and Answer Guide

Connection to Amplify	In this lesson, students extend what they learned about insects in Amplify CKLA 2, Knowledge 8: Insects, Lesson 1: Insects Everywhere!, by investigating New Hampshire's state insect: the ladybug. Students use their developing comprehension, organization, and writing skills to conduct a small research project and a fictional narrative about ladybugs.
Discuss Vocabulary Card	Ask students what they know about New Hampshire's state insect. Explain that a class of fifth graders nominated a type of beetle to become the state insect nearly 50 years ago: the ladybug! Use the card to explain what makes a beetle different from other insects.
Read Focus Text Facts	Project or distribute copies of this page and read with students as a whole group or in small groups. Consider having students underline facts they find most interesting as they read to prepare for their ladybug building project.
Cut out ladybug pieces	Students can prepare for the next step of the project by cutting out all the pieces they will need to build their ladybugs. Use paper clips or envelopes to store the pieces while students select their facts.
Write ladybug facts and stories	This step is another opportunity for students to re-read the Focus Text Facts and select six facts they find the most interesting to paraphrase. Support students as they find and summarize the facts. They should write them on the lined circles. You may wish to have them write drafts of their sentences before using the lined circles. Once students finish writing their facts, challenge them to write a short story about the day in the life of a New Hampshire ladybug. Ask them to think about regular things the ladybug might do as well as exciting twists and turns the day might make. Final drafts of stories should go on the lined story page. Students should use the writing process most familiar to them to create narratives that use descriptive and temporal language to explain thoughts, feelings, and actions.
Build ladybugs	After students have prepared the pieces for their ladybugs, they should be able to follow the directions on the instruction sheet to construct the ladybug. Consider having finished ladybugs "fly" to other desks so that students can read their classmates' favorite facts and stories. Display the ladybugs where they can be easily reached to move the outer wings to read the stories beneath.



BEETLE

Part of speech: noun

Definition: An insect with a pair of hard outer wings that protect a second pair of wings

How to use it: A ladybug is a type of **beetle**.



LIVELY LADYBUGS



Ladybugs can be found on every continent except Antarctica. There are about 5,000 different species of ladybugs. They come in many colors: red, orange, yellow, brown, green, and even pink and purple!



Some ladybugs have spots. Some have stripes. Some do not have any markings! The most common ladybug in North America is the seven spotted ladybug. It is the state insect of New Hampshire.



Ladybugs are actually beetles. Beetles are a type of insect that have a pair of hard wings that protect a pair of wings underneath. Ladybugs use their second pair of wings to fly. Not all beetles fly.



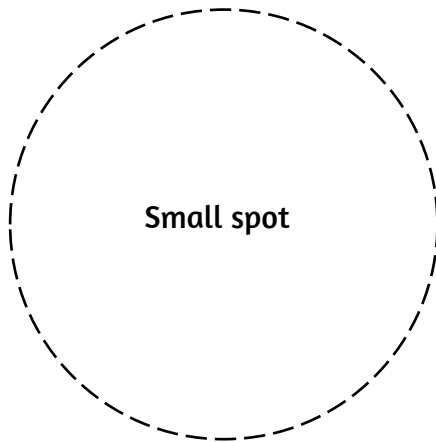
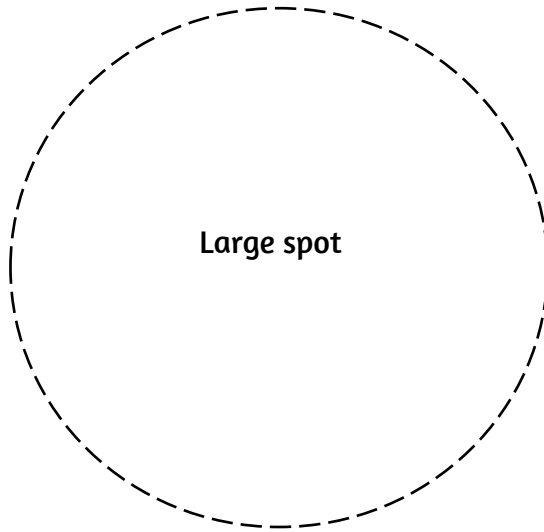
Ladybugs live in many different habitats. You can find ladybugs in grasslands, forests, cities, suburbs, and along rivers. They eat bugs. Farmers love ladybugs because they eat aphids. Aphids destroy crops. In many cultures, the ladybug is a symbol of good luck



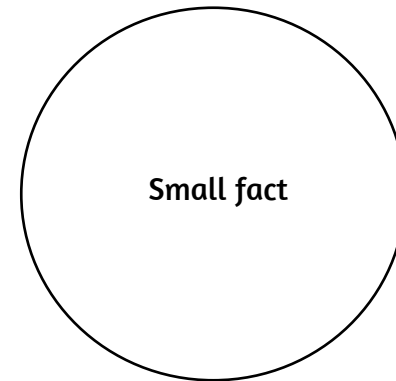
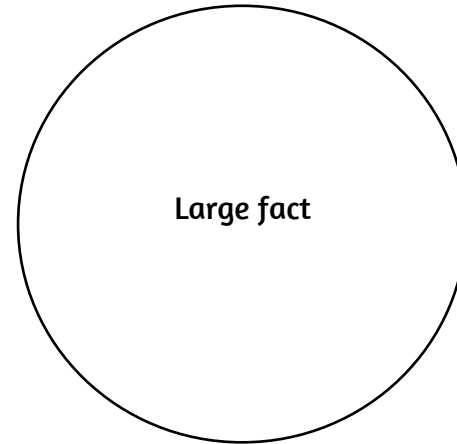


Ladybug Spots and Spot Fact Templates

Cut out the circles. Trace two large and four small circles on black construction paper. Cut them out.



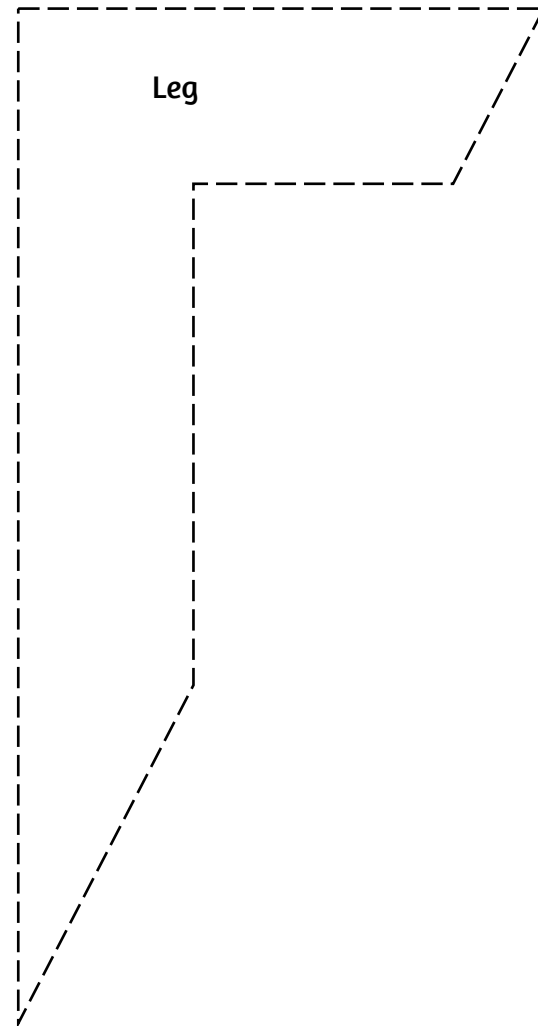
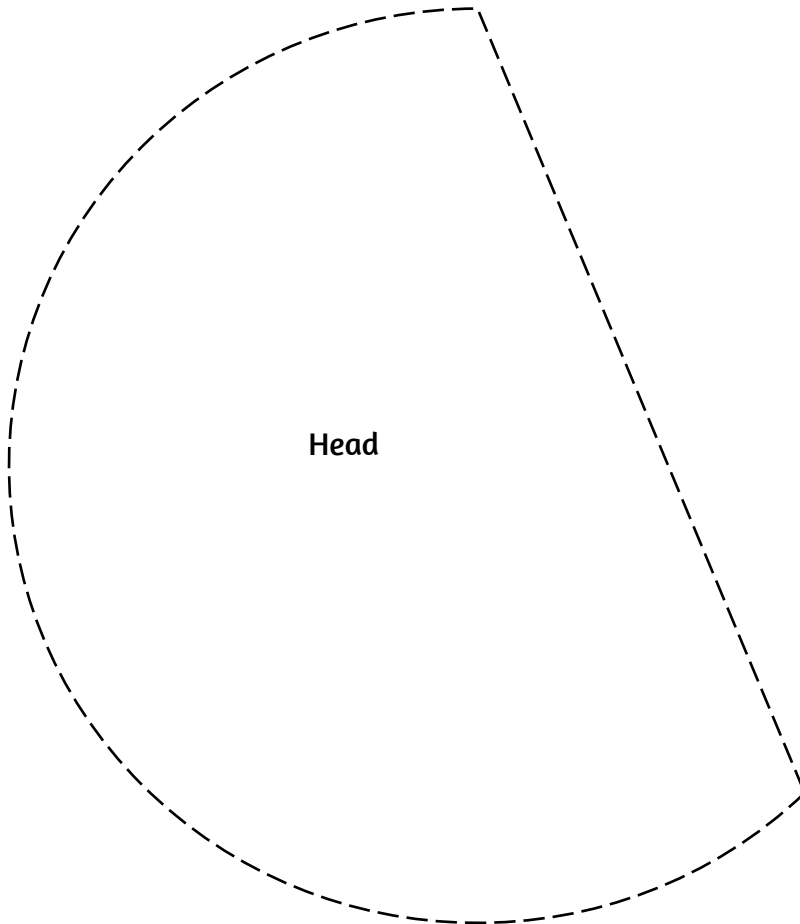
Cut out the circles. Trace two large circles and four small circles on lined paper. Cut them out.





Ladybug Head and Leg Templates

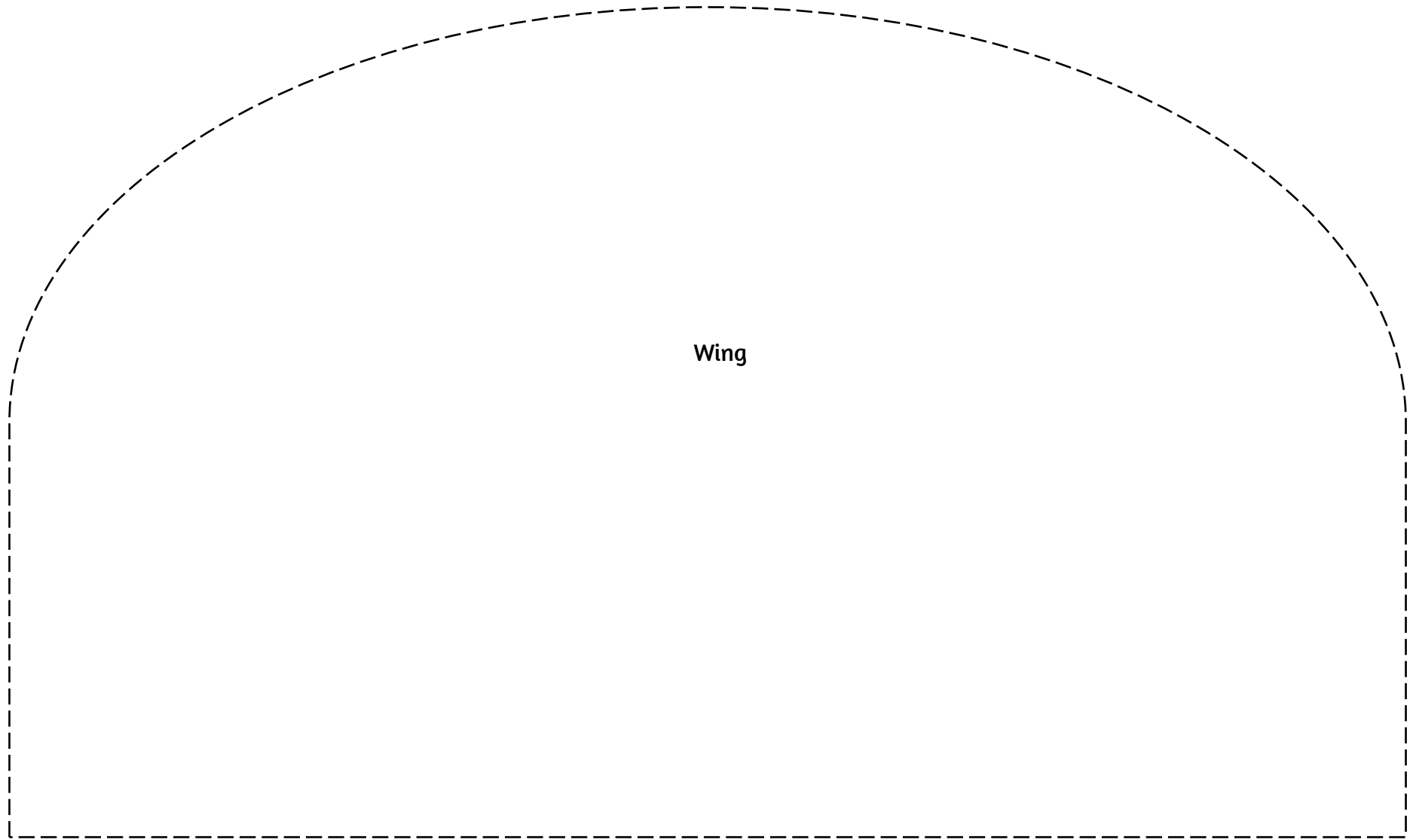
Cut out the shapes. Trace one head and six legs on black construction paper. Cut them out.





Ladybug Wing Template

Cut out the shape. Trace two on red construction paper. Cut them out.





Ladybug Story Template

Cut out the shape. Trace it on lined paper. Cut it out.

Story



Lively Ladybug Instructions

1. Trace and cut out the ladybug pieces. You should have:

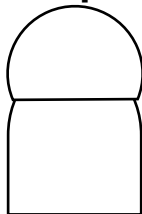
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 head | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 small spots |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 wings | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 large spot fact sheets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 legs | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 small fact sheets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 large spots | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 story sheet |

2. Write one fact on each of the fact sheets.

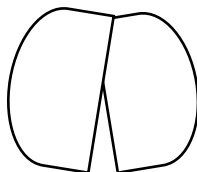
3. Glue each fact sheet to a spot that is the same size.

4. Write your ladybug story.

5. Overlap the head with the top edge of the story and glue it in place, like this:



6. Slightly overlap the wings like this:



7. Poke the brass fastener through the overlapped wings and then through the spot where the head is glued to your story. Close the wings.

8. Glue your spots to the wings.

9. Flip flop the legs and glue them under the edges of the wings:

