



Dancing in the sunlight, you might catch a glimpse of the tiny, polka-dotted wonder we know as the ladybug. These little creatures are quite the sight, with their bold red or orange shells covered in black spots. They are tiny, round and have six short legs to scurry around with. And if you look very closely, you might even see their tiny black antennas twitching in the breeze.

From that breeze, our spotted friends might flutter off to their homes. Ladybugs are found all around the world and they live in a variety of places including forests, fields, grasslands and even your own backyard. They love to munch on aphids, mealybugs and other small insects, making them a gardener's best friend. Next time you see a ladybug, remember, it could be on a mission to protect your garden from pests!

Speaking of missions, ladybugs have quite the journey from birth to adulthood. Their life cycle is made up of four stages - egg, larva, pupa and adult. The mother ladybug lays her eggs on a leaf, where they hatch into larvae that look like tiny alligators! These larvae then transform into pupae before emerging as the spotted beauties we know and love.



Just like the brave knights of old, these spotted beauties have their own armor. Their bright colors and spots warn predators that they taste bad, which helps keep them safe. Some types of ladybugs even play dead to trick predators! So, while they might be small, ladybugs are brave little creatures that help keep our gardens healthy and our world a bit more colorful.



**Solve each problem.****Use the article to answer the question.**

- 1) What color are ladybugs?  
A. red                      B. green                      C. blue                      D. purple
- 2) What does a ladybug larva look like?  
A. Like tiny alligators                      B. Like small ladybugs  
C. Like little worms                      D. Like caterpillars
- 3) Where would you most likely find ladybugs living?  
A. forests and fields                      B. deserts and caves  
C. mountaintops                      D. oceans and rivers
- 4) What is the purpose of a ladybug playing dead?  
A. To communicate with other ladybugs                      B. To rest after flying  
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A. four                      B. six                      C. ten                      D. eight
- 7) What do ladybugs eat?  
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A. on a leaf                      B. underwater                      C. in the air                      D. in a nest

**Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).**

- 11) "I have a bright colored shell! It doesn't just look pretty though, it keeps me safe by warning predators about my bad taste."
- 12) "Gardeners love me because I eat pests that would destroy their plants."
- 13) "I'm small and round with six short legs to skitter across leaves."
- 14) "My mother lays eggs under the ground."
- 15) "From a tiny larva, I become a pupa and then grow into a beautiful adult."
- 16) "I love to eat plants and flowers in the garden."
- 17) "My larvae look like tiny fluffy cats."
- 18) "Sometimes, when I'm in danger, I might play dead to trick my predators."







# Ladybugs

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 26. \_\_\_\_\_ 51. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_ 27. \_\_\_\_\_ 52. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_ 28. \_\_\_\_\_ 53. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_ 29. \_\_\_\_\_ 54. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_ 30. \_\_\_\_\_ 55. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_ 31. \_\_\_\_\_ 56. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_ 32. \_\_\_\_\_ 57. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_ 33. \_\_\_\_\_ 58. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_ 34. \_\_\_\_\_ 59. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_ 35. \_\_\_\_\_ 60. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_ 36. \_\_\_\_\_ 61. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_ 37. \_\_\_\_\_ 62. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_ 38. \_\_\_\_\_ 63. \_\_\_\_\_
14. \_\_\_\_\_ 39. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_ 40. \_\_\_\_\_
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17. \_\_\_\_\_ 42. \_\_\_\_\_
18. \_\_\_\_\_ 43. \_\_\_\_\_
19. \_\_\_\_\_ 44. \_\_\_\_\_
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21. \_\_\_\_\_ 46. \_\_\_\_\_
22. \_\_\_\_\_ 47. \_\_\_\_\_
23. \_\_\_\_\_ 48. \_\_\_\_\_
24. \_\_\_\_\_ 49. \_\_\_\_\_
25. \_\_\_\_\_ 50. \_\_\_\_\_



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- |     |              |     |                |     |                      |
|-----|--------------|-----|----------------|-----|----------------------|
| 1.  | <b>A</b>     | 26. | <b>Not</b>     | 51. | <b>C</b>             |
| 2.  | <b>A</b>     | 27. | <b>Would</b>   | 52. | <b>exclamatory</b>   |
| 3.  | <b>A</b>     | 28. | <b>fact</b>    | 53. | <b>imperative</b>    |
| 4.  | <b>C</b>     | 29. | <b>opinion</b> | 54. | <b>interrogative</b> |
| 5.  | <b>B</b>     | 30. | <b>fact</b>    | 55. | <b>exclamatory</b>   |
| 6.  | <b>B</b>     | 31. | <b>opinion</b> | 56. | <b>declarative</b>   |
| 7.  | <b>B</b>     | 32. | <b>fact</b>    | 57. | <b>interrogative</b> |
| 8.  | <b>C</b>     | 33. | <b>opinion</b> | 58. | <b>declarative</b>   |
| 9.  | <b>D</b>     | 34. | <b>fact</b>    | 59. | <b>interrogative</b> |
| 10. | <b>A</b>     | 35. | <b>fact</b>    | 60. | <b>declarative</b>   |
| 11. | <b>Would</b> | 36. | <b>opinion</b> | 61. | <b>imperative</b>    |
| 12. | <b>Would</b> | 37. | <b>opinion</b> | 62. | <b>exclamatory</b>   |
| 13. | <b>Would</b> | 38. | <b>true</b>    | 63. | <b>imperative</b>    |
| 14. | <b>Not</b>   | 39. | <b>true</b>    |     |                      |
| 15. | <b>Would</b> | 40. | <b>true</b>    |     |                      |
| 16. | <b>Not</b>   | 41. | <b>true</b>    |     |                      |
| 17. | <b>Not</b>   | 42. | <b>false</b>   |     |                      |
| 18. | <b>Would</b> | 43. | <b>false</b>   |     |                      |
| 19. | <b>Would</b> | 44. | <b>false</b>   |     |                      |
| 20. | <b>Would</b> | 45. | <b>false</b>   |     |                      |
| 21. | <b>Not</b>   | 46. | <b>false</b>   |     |                      |
| 22. | <b>Would</b> | 47. | <b>B</b>       |     |                      |
| 23. | <b>Not</b>   | 48. | <b>A</b>       |     |                      |
| 24. | <b>Would</b> | 49. | <b>D</b>       |     |                      |
| 25. | <b>Not</b>   | 50. | <b>A</b>       |     |                      |

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