

## Mrs. Ireland's Terrific Twos Study of Ladybugs

The study of ladybugs fit in well with our science unit on life cycles. After researching lifecycles on many different types of animals the students used Venn diagrams to compare the ladybug life cycle to animals such as that of a frog, butterfly, bird or earthworm, and then wrote fact and comparison sentences. We have been working on our research skills this spring.

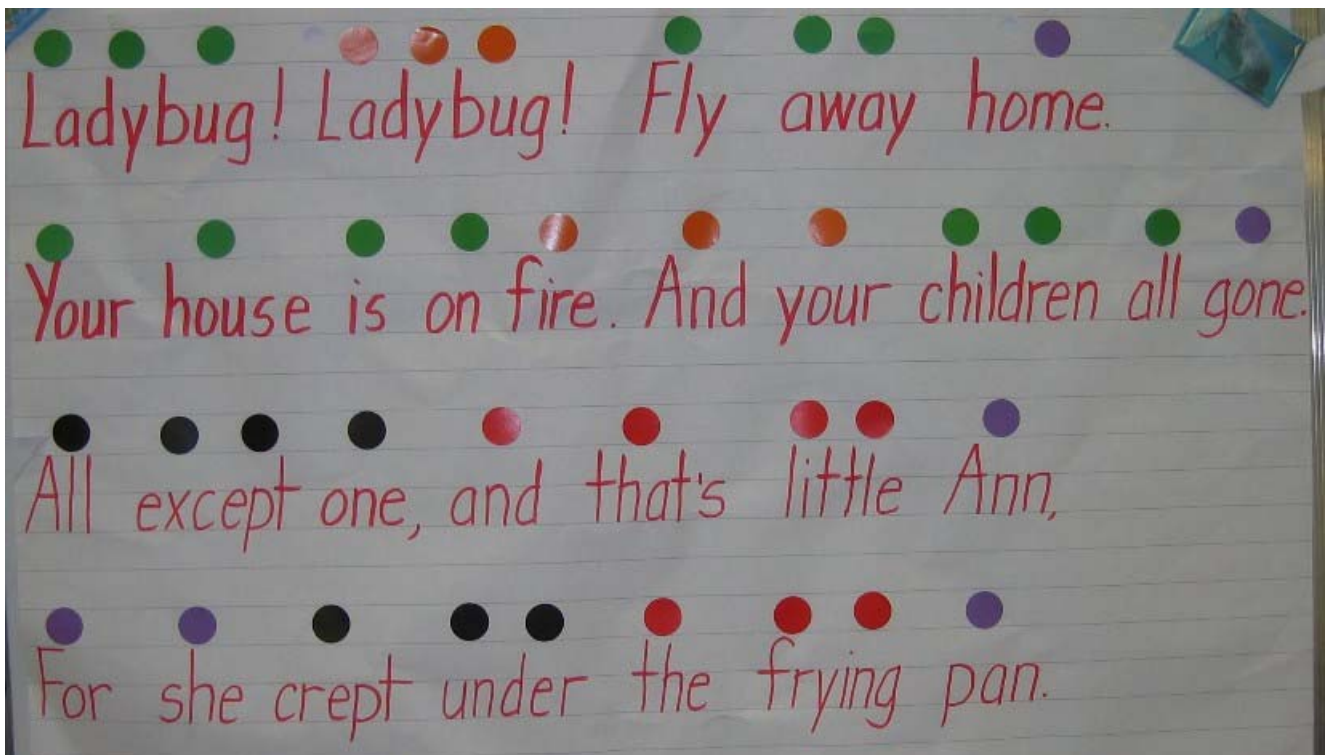
The information on ladybugs was introduced through Read Alouds, Shared Reading and Independent Reading. The students found the following books contained many great facts:

Beetles	Peter Murray	1-56766-000-2
Grub to Ladybug	Melvin and Gilda Berger	0-439-57487-0
Ladybugs	Melvin and Gilda Berger	0-439-44541-8
Amazing Beetles	John Still	0-7737-2504-0
Ladybug, Ladybug, Fly Away Home	Judy Hawes (1967)	Thomas Y. Crowell Company, Our
Six-Legged Friends and Allies	Hilda Simon	SNB 8149-0711-3
Ladybug life Cycle	Justin McCory Martin	ISBN-13 978-0-439-87656-8, ISBN-10 439-87656-7

We found the following poem in several different books and decided to learn it.

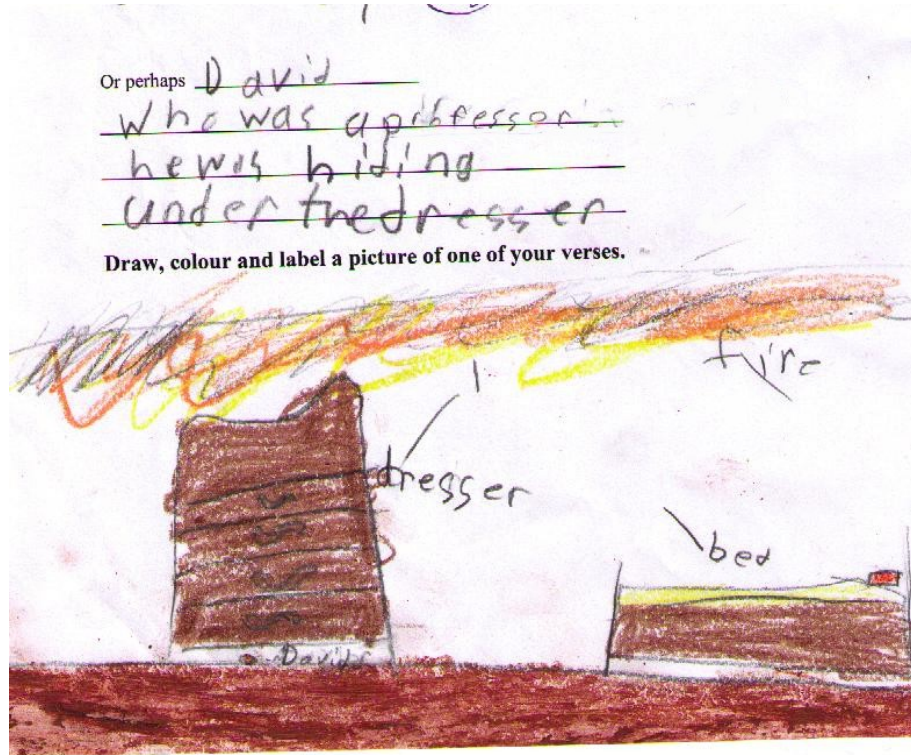
Ladybug! Ladybug! Fly away home. Your house is on fire and your children all gone.  
All except one, and that's little Ann, For she crept under the frying pan.

In music class we have been learning how to read the notes Do, Re, Mi, Soh and La and play them on our precorders. I composed the first verse using the notes Soh, La Mi. The class then cooperatively composed the second verse as an answer to the musical question using Do, Re, Mi and Soh. As we are not yet reading notes on the staff we used coloured dots to represent the five notes/fingering that we know how to play.

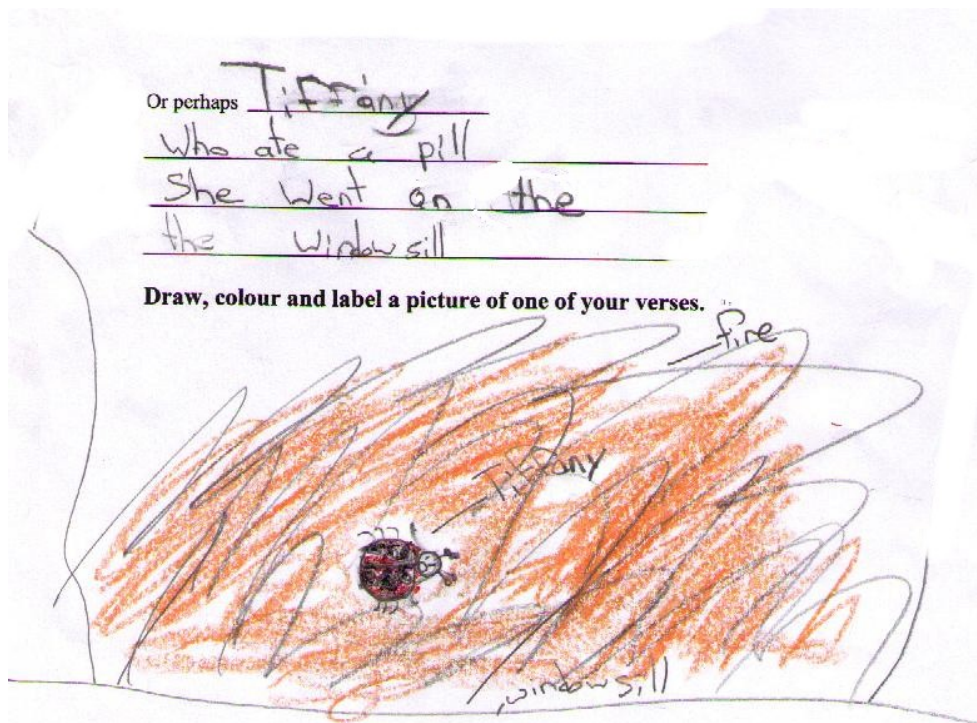


Black=Do, Red=Re, Purple=Mi, Green=Soh and Green=La

As an extension to this poem the students decided to write and illustrate verses about some of the Ladybug's other children.



by Cassie



by Cody

The students were given two choices to present their learning about ladybugs.

1. They were to make up cards, with questions and the answers, about ladybugs and colour a game board. Everyone in the class played the 14 games that were created. They were a hit!

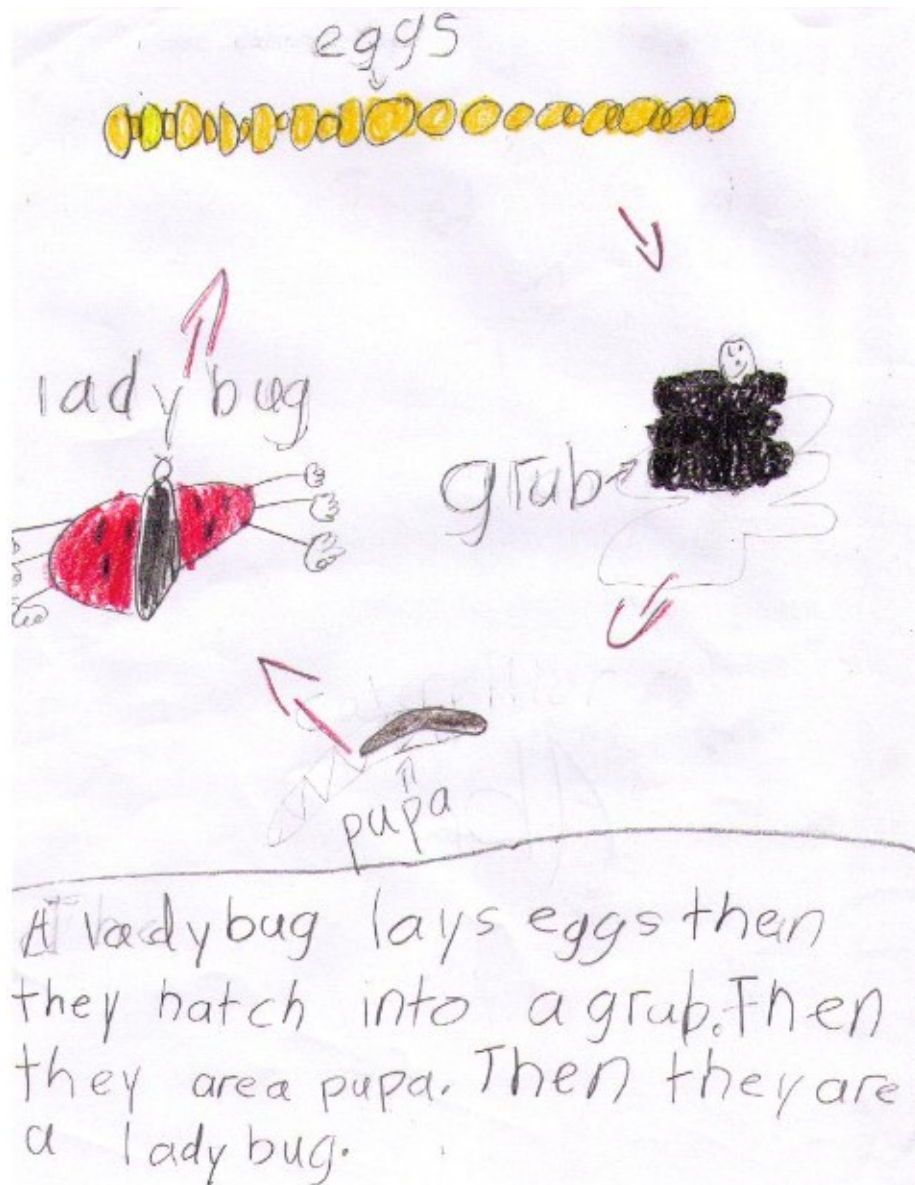


A game board with the pile of cards. by Jacob

Questions made up by the students:

- What happens when a ladybug walks on your hand? You get married the next year.  
How many antennae does a lady bug have? Two  
What is a baby lady bug called? A grub  
How many spots does a ladybug have? Up to 24  
How many pairs of wings do ladybugs have? Two  
What do ladybugs give us? Good luck  
How many ladybugs does it take to save a fruit tree? Twelve  
How many legs does a ladybug have? Six  
How many eyes does a ladybug have? Two  
Where do ladybugs live? Anywhere  
How many aphids can a grub eat in one day? Up to 60.  
What does a grub make when it is finished growing? A pupa  
What colour are ladybug eggs? Yellow  
What colours are ladybugs? Most are orange and black, also yellow, purple, brown  
What pest came from Australia that ladybugs can kill? Cottony cushion  
How many lines of symmetry does a ladybug have? One  
Where do ladybugs lay their eggs? On leaves  
What can ladybugs cure? Tooth aches, cholic and measles.

2. Students were to make up two posters with information about ladybugs. Ten students proudly presented their posters to the class.



By Taylor

12 ladybugs can save  
1 fruit tree.



by Abi