

All about...

Ladybirds

Ladybirds are a species of insect. In fact, they are a type of beetle. They do not have a skeleton like humans but an exoskeleton in the shape of a hard shell. This shell is very clever as it can be opened to allow two pairs of wings to be released. Ladybirds can have a variety of colourings but the most common in the United Kingdom is bright red with dark patches or spots. Ladybirds should not be able to fly very well as their bodies are large compared to the size of their wings so they have to beat them very quickly to generate enough power to fly. In fact, they are able to beat their wings rapidly, at over 85 times a second. This is one of the fastest wing speeds in the animal kingdom.



How Do Ladybirds Defend Themselves?

Ladybirds have a variety of approaches to ensure that they do not become prey for any other animals. First of all, their bright colours let other animals know that they are not tasty and not worth eating. Bright colours are known to be a warning in nature, making it clear that they are dangerous in some way. Other animals use bright colours to warn off predators such as wasps, snakes and poison dart frogs. Ladybirds have another, far more unusual way of defending themselves. They can bleed from their knees. This fluid smells terrible, discouraging predators from getting too close and is poisonous to any animals that eat it.

Did You Know?

It is believed that a ladybird's age is directly linked to the number of spots on its shell. This is false however. The arrangement of spots can be used to define exactly what species of ladybird it is.

Top Ladybird Facts

- Ladybirds don't have the same features as humans. They don't have a nose so use their feet in order to sense smells.
- Ladybirds are affected by old age, just like people. Whereas people's hair might go grey, when ladybirds get older, their spots and their colours start to fade.

Just as ladybirds are similar to wasps by using colour as a defence mechanism, they share features with other animals too. When the winter begins and the temperature drops, ladybirds search for places to keep warm. They may hibernate inside discarded bark and leaves, and even inside people's houses. They also gather together in groups to conserve warmth. This means they hibernate, like certain mammals, sleeping, waiting for the warm weather to arrive.

Friday

**Reading
Mission**
30 mins

Children to read or be supported to read 'Worms'.
After, they can answer these questions. These can be verbal answers or they could be written down or typed. Suggested answers are underneath.

1. What is another name for a ladybird's hard shell?

2. Why do ladybirds have to beat their wings so quickly?

3. What does hibernate mean?

4. Name two other animals that use bright colours to deter predators.

5. How are ladybirds affected by old age?

6. How does ladybird blood put off predators?

7. Where might you find a ladybird in the winter?

8. Name one amazing fact you learnt about ladybirds.

Answers

1. What is another name for a ladybird's hard shell?
The shell can be called an exoskeleton.
2. Why do ladybirds have to beat their wings so quickly?
Ladybirds have to beat their wings quickly because their bodies are large and hard to move.
3. What does hibernate mean?
Hibernate means to sleep and stay warm over the winter.
4. Name two other animals that use bright colours to deter predators.
Children to select from: wasps, snakes and poison dart frogs.
5. How are ladybirds affected by old age?
Ladybirds' colours and spots fade as they get older.
6. How does ladybird blood put off predators?
Ladybirds blood smells unpleasant and is poisonous.
7. Where might you find a ladybird in the winter?
Ladybirds could be found in houses or inside old bark and leaves.
8. Name one amazing fact you learnt about ladybirds.
Children to select an appropriate fact to answer the question.

Writing
Mission
30 mins

Your mission will carry on from yesterday. Create an information poster based on minibeasts. You can make your poster based on the minibeast you have researched **OR** you can create an information poster about a variety of different minibeasts.

Remember – an information poster should include a title, headings, facts, illustrations, photographs (if possible) Did you know questions and should be eye catching!



Maths
Mission
30 mins

Your mission is to answer the word problems using column method subtraction. Make sure to lay the digits out in the correct columns.

1. A shop has 176 pairs of socks. 87 pairs are white sport socks. How many other pairs are there?



2. There are 289 children in a school. 154 are in Key Stage 2, the rest are in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1. How many children are in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 altogether?

3. There are 315 pencils in the school store cupboard. 178 are given out to some teachers. How many are left in the store cupboard?



4. Edward buys a drink and a packet of crisps for £1.45. He pays with a £2 coin. What change does he receive?

5. A flower market has 432 tulips. A florist buys 155 tulips. How many are left?

6. A sweet shop has 523 boiled sweets in jars. One jar containing 164 sweets is sold. How many are left?



7. A farmer has 584 cows. He takes 246 to a new field. How many are left behind?

8. A school has a target of raising £275 for a local charity. So far, they have raised £149. How much more is there to raise to reach the target?



9. A teacher counts all the exercise books that her class has used during the year and finds there are 237 in total. 96 are Maths books. How many other books are there?
-



10. A school prints 382 letters for parents. 153 letters are given out on Thursday and the rest on Friday. How many letters are given out on Friday?
-

Answers

1. A shop has 176 pairs of socks. 87 pairs are white sport socks. How many other pairs are there?
89
2. There are 289 children in a school. 154 are in Key Stage 2, the rest are in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1. How many children are in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 altogether?
135
3. There are 315 pencils in the school store cupboard. 178 are given out to some teachers. How many are left in the store cupboard?
137
4. Edward buys a drink and a packet of crisps for £1.45. He pays with a £2 coin. What change does he receive?
55p
5. A flower market has 432 tulips. A florist buys 155 tulips. How many are left?
277
6. A sweet shop has 523 boiled sweets in jars. One jar containing 164 sweets is sold. How many are left?
359
7. A farmer has 584 cows. He takes 246 to a new field. How many are left behind?
338
8. A school has a target of raising £275 for a local charity. So far, they have raised £149. How much more is there to raise to reach the target?
£126
9. A teacher counts all the exercise books that her class has used during the year and finds there are 237 in total. 96 are Maths books. How many other books are there?
141
10. A school prints 382 letters for parents. 153 letters are given out on Thursday and the rest on Friday. How many letters are given out on Friday?
229

Topic
Mission

Continued

