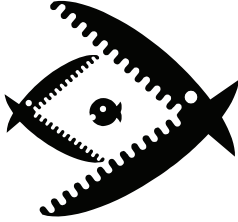


Let's Talk About **The Grouchy Ladybug**

This ladybug meets creatures of different sizes. The creatures are increasingly bigger with the turn of every page.

After you have read the story together, ask your child to show you pictures of the smallest and the biggest creatures in the story.



The Grouchy Ladybug spends her whole day looking for food. The time on the clocks and the position of the sun changes on each page. Your child will not yet be able to tell time, but he can learn that when both hands are at the top of the clock it is lunchtime. The sun will be straight overhead. On a sunny noon hour take your child outside and notice where the sun is in the sky.



The grouchy ladybug is unhappy because she doesn't know how to share. Sharing can be hard to do. This story will help your child realize that others have to learn how to share too.

Talk about the friendly ladybug. Why do we call her friendly?

Let's Play With Rhymes



Ladybug, Ladybug

Ladybug, ladybug, fly away do

(Thumb and finger pinched together can be the ladybug flying around the child.)

Fly to the mountain and feed upon dew.

(Land the ladybug on the child and give a little tickle for feeding.)

Feed upon dew and sleep on a rug

(Ladybug sleeps on child's palm.)

Then fly away home like a good little bug.

(Then flies home to a cozy spot perhaps behind the child's ear or under her chin.)

Hickory, Dickory, Dock

Repeat this game playing faster and faster, then in slow motion.

Hickory, dickory, dock,

(Swing arms back and forth.)

Tick tock! (Clap, clap.)

The mouse ran up the clock. *(Run hands from your toes to the top of your head.)*

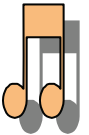
Tick tock! (Clap, clap.)

The clock struck one, *(Hold up one finger.)*

And down he run. *(Run hands back down to toes.)*

Hickory, dickory, dock. *(Swing arms.)*

Tick tock! (Stamp feet.)



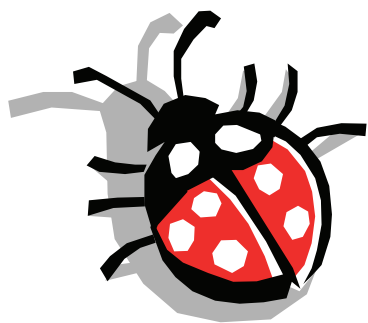
Note to Parents & Caregivers

Books can help children understand their own feelings. It can help them learn ways they can get along with others better.

Books can help children understand themselves better.

Let's Create

Ladybugs



Cut an egg carton into individual cups. Turn one upside down to become the back of a ladybug. Use paint or markers to colour the domed egg cup red with black dots. Poke two small pieces of pipe cleaner into one end of the cup for antennae. Draw on eyes to complete the ladybug.



The ladybug your child has just made can play the part of the Grouchy Ladybug in the story. She can fly to each creature pictured in the book and say, "Oh, you're not big enough" and fly off to the next creature on the following page.

Let's Be Together

Feelings can be fun. Ask your child what he does when he feels grouchy, silly, tired, sad, or tired.

Share what things around the house make you feel that way.

Practice making grouchy faces, silly faces, sad faces and happy faces with your child in front of the mirror.



Talk about what times of the day you like the most, what times of the day you miss your child, when you like to be with lots of people and when you like to be alone.

Ask your child what times of the day she likes the most.

Choose a special time together that would be great for a cuddle, a story, or a dance. Then make this a fun part of each day.

It's good to talk about feelings with children.



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