



Ladybirds



- Ladybirds are beetles
- They are usually round or oval shaped
- There are lots of different types of ladybird, about 46 different types in Great Britain
- The most common ladybird is red with seven spots
- Not all ladybirds are red and not all have spots



© Ladybird Survey



# Ladybird life cycle

- Ladybirds lay eggs.
- The eggs will hatch in 4 to 10 days.





# Ladybird life cycle

- Larvae comes out of the egg.
- It will shed its skin over the next 3 to 6 weeks.
- The larvae will then attach itself to a leaf or stem and will become a ....?





# Ladybird life cycle

- Pupa
- This is a sleepy time when the larvae changes into a ladybird.
- This is called - metamorphosis.
- Metamorphosis takes about 2 weeks.





# Ladybird life cycle

- The adult emerges from the pupa.
- It is bright yellow when it comes out.
- Its wings are soft and will become hard over the next few hours.





# What do ladybirds eat?

- Most ladybirds eat other insects.
- We like ladybirds because they eat the insects which damage the food we grow.
- Ladybirds are often called 'the gardeners best friend'.







2-spot ladybird (*Adalia 2-punctata*)

© the Natural History Museum, London

How many spots on this ladybird?





A ladybird with lots of spots.  
How many can you count?



# What is this?

- This really is a ladybird
- What is different about this ladybird?

