



One Lonely Ladybird – How to use this resource

One Lonely Ladybird is an animated rhyming counting story. It is ideal for supporting children who are learning to read the number words *one* to *ten*.

The story begins with just one lonely ladybird.

“One lonely ladybird
Feeling sad and blue,
Along came another
Then there were . . . two.”

With each verse one more ladybird joins in until there are ten ladybirds in all, playing together.

“Ten friendly ladybirds
Playing with each other,
Taking turns and sharing
Then went home to mother.”

An animation accompanying the arrival of each ladybird provides visual interest while the rhyming text and predictability of the number sequence encourages children to join in with the reading. Number words only are used in the story encouraging children to focus on and recognise these without reference to numerals.

The story is ideal for displaying and reading with students on the interactive whiteboard.

Additional resources

Two follow-up activities, ideal for maths groups or individual practice, provide additional support for students learning to read the number words *one* to *ten*.

Ladybird number words Children cut and paste the number words from one to ten to match the number of ladybirds.

Ladybird number book Children count and colour the number of ladybirds, then cut out the pages and arrange them in order to make their own counting book.