







During springtime, it is always fun to do crafts that involve insects like ladybugs. They're fun to look at, less "scary" than other insects, and they are all unique with color and dots, so it makes for a fun counting game!

# **Learning Outcomes**

#### **Domain:**

Cognitive

Skills:

Tactile Exploration

### **Indicator:**

Painting.
Gripping paint brush and getting paint on all sides of rock.



## **Materials**

- Various sizes of rocks (larger rocks for infants and slightly smaller for toddlers)
- Paintbrushes (large to grip)
- Red, orange, and yellow paint
- Black paint (for spots)
- Q-tips

## Instructions

- **Step 1:** Have infants/toddlers ready with smocks or oversized t-shirts to get messy.
- **Step 2:** Have a large/shallow box or box lid with a clean rock inside. Have the child choose which color paint to work with.
- **Step 3:** Model how to paint the rock by dipping paintbrush into paint and then stroking the rock. Assist where needed.
- **Step 4:** Once dry, have child use a Q-tip to place black dots or marks on their ladybug. As your child places a dot on the ladybug, count each one out loud.

**Step 5:** Once completely dry, put child's initials on bottom and place somewhere in classroom to admire. A sensory bin is a great place to play with these!

# ? Playful Questions

- · What is an insect?
- How many legs do insects have?
- Why is a ladybug a beetle?
- How many different colors of ladybugs are there?
- Which color ladybug is my favorite?

