



## LadyBug Rocks



### MATERIALS LIST:

- 1) Flat rocks -- Mexican Pebbles work best; ½ to 1 inch in size;
- 2) Eyes
  - a. Self-stick (small to medium works great) Michaels Arts & Crafts Store, Oriental Trading and Target have them
  - b. Non-stick eyes are also available; cheaper; come in smaller sizes and a lot more varieties; using glue on non-stick eyes is a whole lot cheaper than the self-stick eyes but the process tends to be little messier and needs time to dry;
- 3) Red spray paint . We use the cheapest paint we can find....usually Apple Red spray paint from Home Depot. We have yet to find a child-safe paint. If you hear of one, please let us know. **This activity is NOT appropriate for small children.**
- 4) For the black markings, Sharpies work the best but they stain clothing permanently
- 5) OPTIONAL: Pipe cleaners
- 6) Scissors to cut pipe cleaner wire
- 7) Tape
- 8) Glue
- 9) Activity Card

**BEFORE EVENT:** Spray paint flat rocks red prior to event. Spraying both sides is not necessary.

- It is also a good idea to make a lady bug or two for display

### DAY OF EVENT:

**PREP:** Put red rocks out for display; having them spill out of a pail or a basket works nice; put samples out so kids can copy them; markers can be put on the table, displayed in a 4" pot or you can give it to them. Make sure the child replaces the cap when he is finished.

### ACTIVITY:

- Allow the child to select a rock
- Describe what to do (i.e., color head black, stripe down center to show 2 wings, dots on back wings)
- **MOST IMPORTANT!** Talk to the child about the life cycle of the Lady Bug. Give child the Activity Card for the project that tells about the importance of Lady Bugs as a beneficial insect and explains their life cycle. (LadyBug Activity Cards are available from KGS or download the card from the website and print them out yourself.)
- Give child 2 eyes (note: it is hard for people with large or arthritic fingers to peel the back) off of the self-stick eyes)  
Be ready to help less dexterous children, if needed)
- OPTIONAL: Help child with pipe cleaners in cutting them and placing them  
(Sometimes tape is better and when they get home they can glue them on.)

### OUTCOME:

The child earns about beneficial insects and their life cycle while decorating the "LadyBug" rock to take home.

