

Wonderfully Made  
for  
Active Playground Experiences

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# Creative Activities for Playground Learning

Playground Safety/Set Up

Playground Science Equipment

Playground Tree

Sink and Float

Funnels and Basters

Making Colors

Beat a Leaf

Rakes/Brooms/Shovels

Story Quilt/Basket of Nature Books

Fishing Pond - Equipment /Activity Information

Volcanoes in the Sand - Recipe

Tweezer Trek Activity

Playground Pets

Stocking Caterpillars and Potato Heads

Trikes, Scooters, Wagons

Dinosaurs - Recipe and Discussion

Silk Worms - Mulberry Tree

Hollow Blocks, Legos, Ramps, Balls

Water Construction Play

# The Importance of Active Learning Centers

- \*Creating opportunities for age appropriate concrete experiences necessary for brain development.
  - Encourage language interaction
    - \*Dramatic play involvement
      - \*Physical development
      - \*Develop listening skills
  - \*Provide opportunities for making choices
    - \*Logical thinking
    - \*Vision skills
- \*Gives children the opportunity to feel successful as they play.
  - \*Creating STEM project opportunities
    - \*Creative art development
    - \*Music and movement interaction
- \*Provide joy-filled school experiences within small and large group playground activities.

# Ladybugs

## Steps for Releasing Ladybugs in the Garden:

- \*Purchase ladybugs from a local nursery, garden center, or mail-order firm.
- \*Spray a few drops of water on the bag of ladybugs and place them in the vegetable crisper in your refrigerator as soon as you get them. The cold will not harm them. Their movement becomes slow.
- \*Go outside and water your garden well.
- \*Release the ladybugs into your garden after the sunsets. This will prevent the hungry birds from eating them before the ladybugs begin to eat the aphids.

It is fun to share these ladybugs. Use a baggie or plastic bug container for travel home with each child. Attach a note for the parents with the steps for releasing the ladybugs in their gardens.

## 5 Little Ladybugs

C C C C C D D D D D

Five little ladybugs crawling on the floor,

E E E E D E D C C C

One flew away and then there were four. **Chorus**

Four little ladybugs, crawling on my knee.

One flew away and then there were three. **Chorus**

Three little ladybugs, crawling on my shoe.

One flew away and then there were two. **Chorus**

Two little ladybugs, oh what fun,  
One flew away and then there was one. **Chorus**  
One little ladybug left all alone.  
She/He flew away and then there was none!

### **Chorus:**

CC G CC G  
Ladybug, ladybug,  
G F EF  
Don't fly away.  
F C FF CF  
Your home is my garden,  
F F E D E  
I want you to stay.

### **Earth Worms**

Read books about worms and how they live.  
Hunt for worms in the garden so the children can handle them.  
Examine the worms under a magnifier.

### **Bubbles**

$\frac{1}{4}$  Cup Dawn or Joy

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup water

1 Tablespoon Corn syrup

\*Experiment using common household items such as colanders, screens unused fly swatters, slotted spatulas, and spoons, large holed buttons and others.

\*Count the bubbles you see in the air.

\*Make predictions about the size of the bubbles and shape