

A Good Place

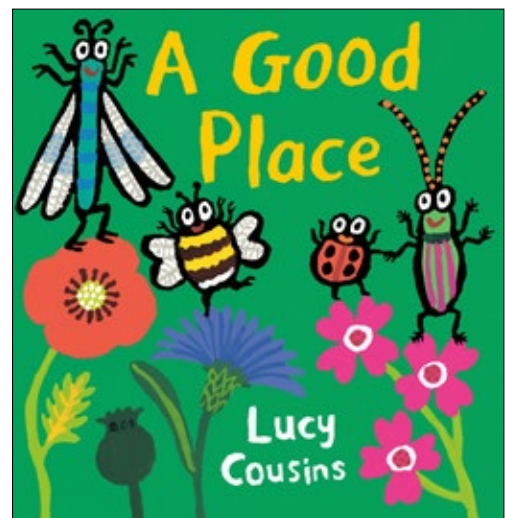
Themes

Nature • Adventure • Conversation • Insects • Habitats

Exploring the Story

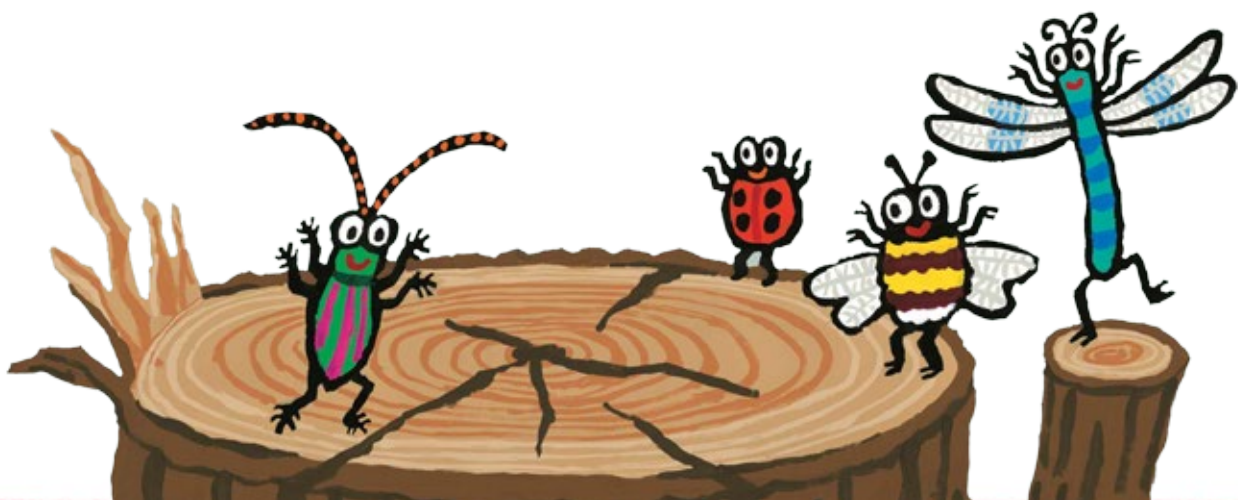
Where is a good place for insects to live? Before reading the story, ask the children where they think would be a good place to live if they were a bee, a ladybug, a dragonfly or a beetle? Would they like to be stuck inside their house? Would they like to sleep in their bed? Would they like to eat what they normally have for dinner?

After reading the story, discuss with the children how each bug had different needs and therefore wanted a different sort of home. Ask the children to think about their own needs (eating, sleeping, resting, playing) and get them think about their very own 'good place'. What does their ideal home include?



Even though the first few places the insects found initially seemed good, they turned out to NOT be a good place. Discuss with the children why this is. What changed? Was it a good place and then something happened or was it not a very good place to begin with?

Have a closer look at the end papers, the front papers show a very different scene to the back papers. Ask the children why they think that is. What do they think the different scenes are trying to tell us? Which one would they rather live in? Can they think of any creatures who would like to live in the scene on the front papers? And what about the end papers?



Activities

'Good Place' Bug Hotel

Using the library resources, find out a little bit more about insects and their ideal habitats. With the information you learn, gather items that will help you to build an ideal bug hotel to place in the garden. You can use recycled items from home such as old milk bottles, straws, paper and toilet rolls as well as natural items like sticks, pinecones, leaves, flowers, stones and gumnuts. You will also need some sort of container to hold the items, such as a shallow box or a large milk bottle with the side cut out.

Using your gathered items, arrange them into the container to create small spaces that would appeal to insects. Pieces of paper can be rolled up and stacked next to each other, sticks can be broken into smaller pieces and tied in rough bundles, leaves and bark can be placed in small piles. You may like to glue things to keep them in place or just pack them tightly together. You can accessorise your hotel with a sign or any other decorations that take your fancy. Once you have finished find a 'good place' to put your bug hotel and then wait for some insects to check in. You might even like to keep a log or journal of all the insects that come to stay.

Insect Friend Sudoku

Use the images of the four insect friends to solve the Sudoku puzzle template provided.

Each picture must appear only once in each section, only once in each row and only once in each column. Can you fill in the missing pictures to complete the Sudoku?

Good Place Checklist

Use the nature checklist to find a good place in your backyard or your local park for the four insect friends to live.

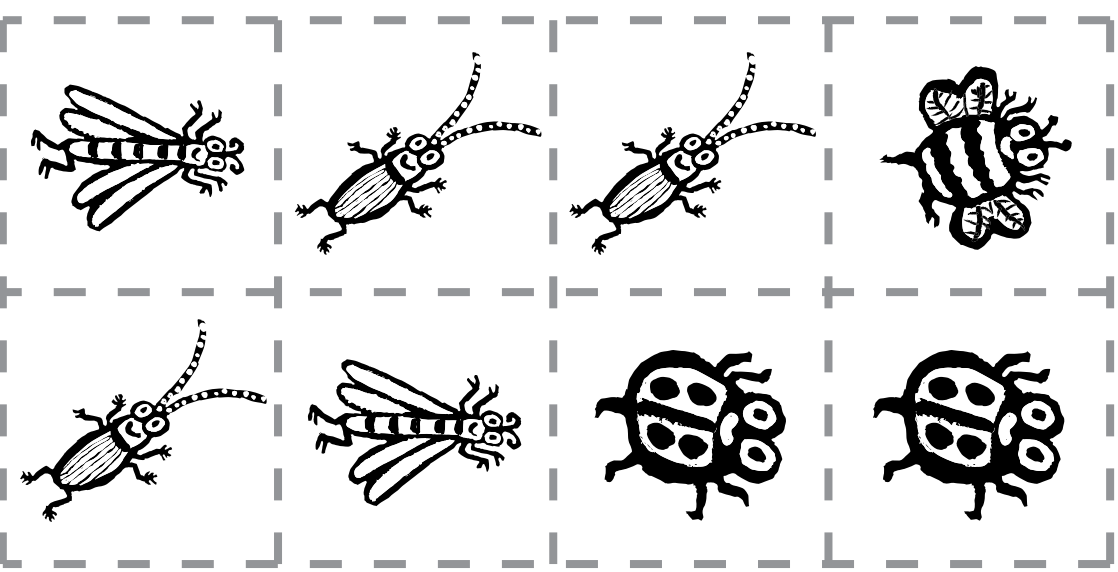
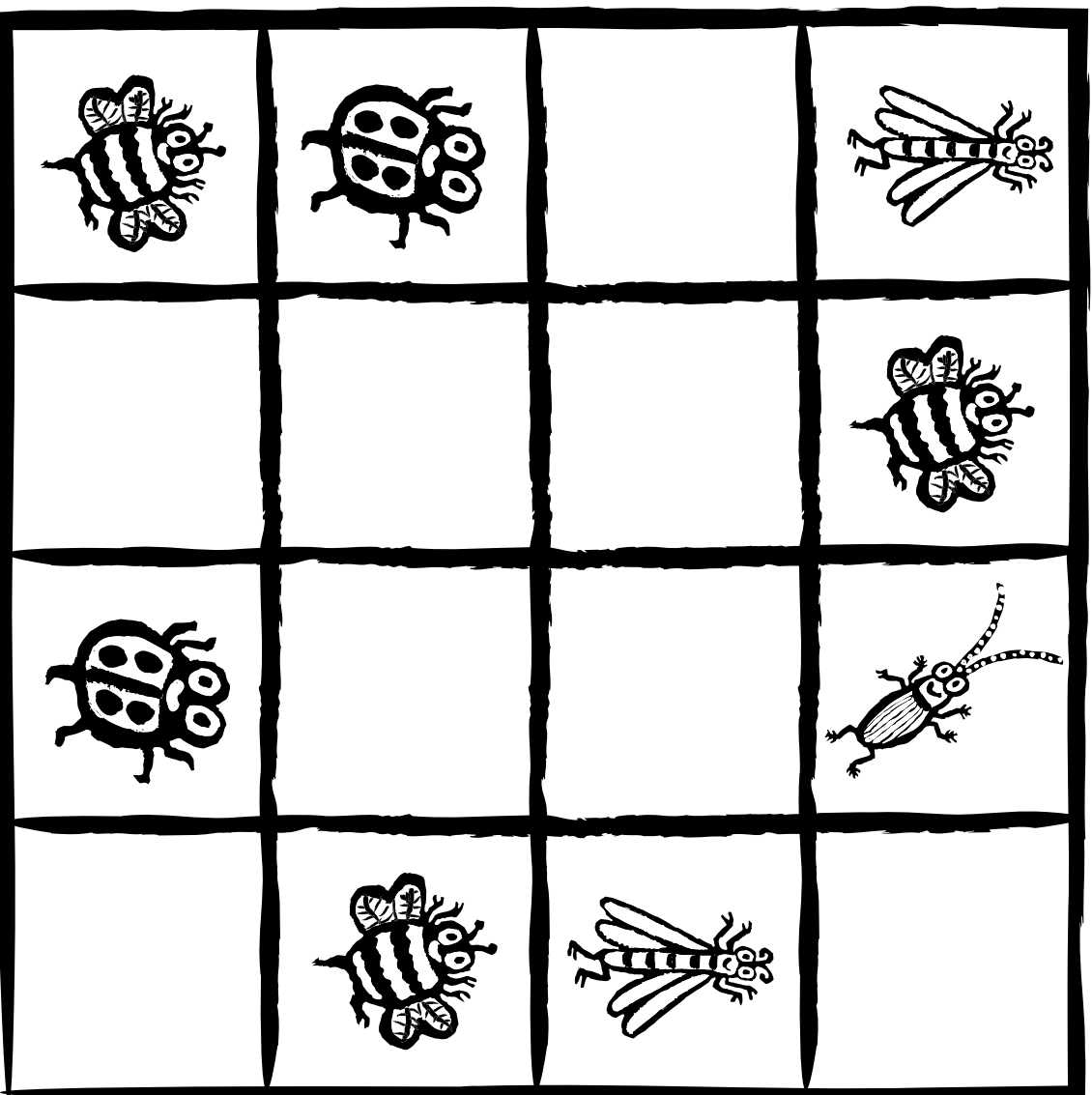
Insect Puppet Show

Using the attached template, colour and then cut out each insect finger puppet. Cut out the tabs and tape/glue each side together to create a loop that will fit over your finger. Tape or glue each loop onto the back of each insect to complete the puppets. The insect puppets can be used to act out the story or in free imaginative play.

The extend the activity you may like to draw and cut out some of the scenery from the story to create your own puppet show sets.



Insect Friend Sudoku



Good Place Checklist

Find a good place in your backyard or your local park for the four insect friends to live. You need to find a place with:

No big feet to squash us

Beautiful flowers

A little pond

No noisy cars

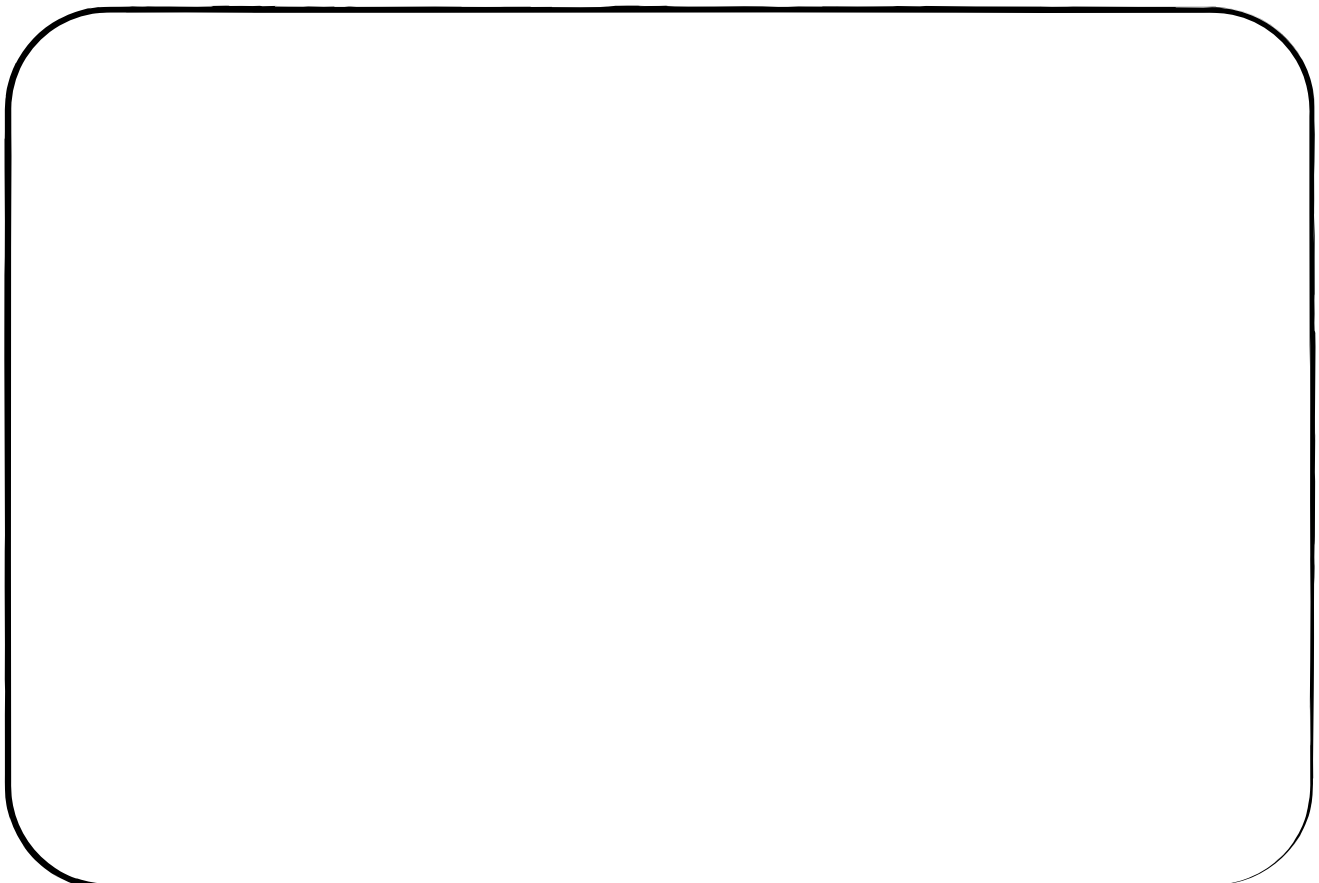
Dead wood

No smelly rubbish

Gorgeous green leaves

NO BUG SPRAY

Draw a picture of the good place you found:



Insect Puppet Show

