

# Insect Lore

4+

 **WARNING:**  
CHOKING HAZARD—Small parts.  
Not for Children under 3 years.



## BugLand with Ladybirds Instruction Guide

[InsectLore.co.uk](http://InsectLore.co.uk)

## Before you begin ...

- Your ladybird larvae may be inactive upon arrival. Please give them 48 hours to acclimatise to their new home. If you are worried that there may be a problem with your larvae, **DO NOT THROW THEM AWAY.** Instead, contact us at [hello@insectlore.co.uk](mailto:hello@insectlore.co.uk) or via our website to discuss your concerns with a member of our staff. Live Insects are not returnable (this is for their welfare!).
- Ensure the dome on the BugLand is securely attached to the base. Press the dome down firmly to ensure your larvae will not escape.
- Always carry the BugLand by the base. **DO NOT LIFT BY THE DOME.**
- Transfer your larvae as soon as possible.
- Insect Lore guarantees that 5 out of 10 ladybird larvae will develop into adult ladybirds.



1.

## Transfer your ladybird larvae into the BugLand habitat

Your ladybird larvae have arrived in a special transport tube with all the nutritious food they need to transform into adult ladybirds. So, now it's time to move them into their new home.



### Here's what to do:

- Remove the magnification cap from the BugLand.
- Remove the lid on the tube of ladybird larvae and then tilt the habitat as pictured above. **DO NOT SHAKE THE CONTENTS OF THE TUBE ONTO THE SPONGE IN THE VOLCANO.** Instead, gently shake the contents of the tube (ladybird larvae, food and shredded paper) onto the LANDSCAPE of the habitat.
- Place the habitat (housing your ladybird larvae) in a safe place away from direct sunlight.

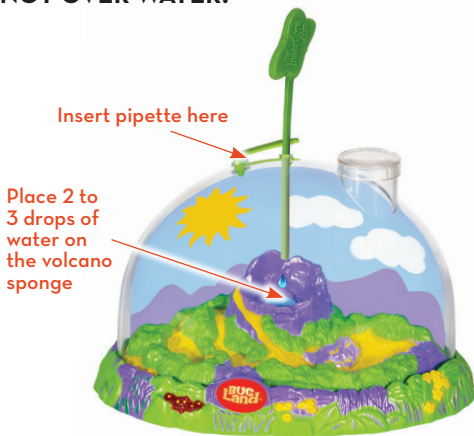
## 2. Place a few drops of water in the BugLand

It is very important to provide moisture for your ladybird larvae throughout their life cycle, but make sure you do not add too much water.

### Here's what to do:

- Open the green cap at the top of the BugLand.
- Insert the pipette and place 2 to 3 drops of water on the volcano sponge.
- Keep the sponge moist throughout the ladybird life cycle. Placing, 2 to 3 drops of water every other day should be enough.

**DO NOT OVER WATER.**



### 3. Watch your ladybirds grow, pupate and emerge!

Your ladybird larvae will spend approximately 7-14 days eating, growing and moulting. When the larvae have eaten their fill and stored enough energy, they will enter the pupal stage of their lives.



#### Here's what to do:

- Observe as your ladybird larvae attach themselves to the BugLand and transform into pupae.
- **PLEASE NOTE:** It can look as though your ladybirds have died when they enter the pupal stage! Don't worry about this, but if you have any concerns please contact us before disposing of your larvae.
- Do not shake or jostle the BugLand during this time.
- Wait approximately 7 to 10 days for your ladybirds to emerge from the pupae.
- Watch as the exoskeletons of the ladybirds harden and their spots appear!

## 4. Feed your adult ladybirds

After your ladybirds emerge from their pupae, they will spend all their time eating and exploring.

**IMPORTANT:** If you do not have a food source available, please release your ladybirds, immediately after their exoskeletons have hardened.



### Here's what to do:

- Soak 1 or 2 raisins in water for about 5 minutes.
- Cut the raisins in half.
- Drop them in the BugLand.
- Repeat when the raisins have disappeared.

## 5. Set your ladybirds free!

After you have watched, studied, and shared the wonder of your ladybirds, it's time to set them free!

### Here's what to do:

- Release your ladybirds outdoors within 2-3 days after their emergence.
- Your ladybirds will be more likely to make your garden their home and protect it from harmful pests like aphids if you release them in the early morning.
- Be sure daytime temperatures will reach above 12°C on release day.



**Raise more ladybirds!**

**Order MORE Live Ladybird Larvae at  
[InsectLore.co.uk](https://www.insectlore.co.uk)**

# Ladybird Metamorphosis

## Ladybirds undergo metamorphosis, just like butterflies!

1. The ladybird life cycle begins with tiny ladybird **EGGS** laid in a neat row on the underside of a leaf (you will not see the egg stage during this project).
2. **LADYBIRD LARVAE** hatch from the eggs. Unlike caterpillars, which eat plants, ladybird larvae hunt and eat bugs like aphids. Ladybird larvae don't resemble ladybirds at all!
3. Your ladybird larvae will eat, grow, shed their skins (moult), and then attach themselves to the BugLand habitat as **PUPAE**.
4. When the **ADULT LADYBIRDS** emerge from the pupae, they'll wait for their exoskeletons to harden. The adults will then begin to explore and look for food. Once you release your ladybirds, they will begin the fascinating process of metamorphosis all over again!

