

Dylan and Jaime
AND

THE  Lost Ladybug
PROJECT



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National Science Foundation
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN



Cornell University



Dylan and Jaime just moved to New York from South Dakota. Their parents suggested they might meet some new friends if they learned about New York State symbols.

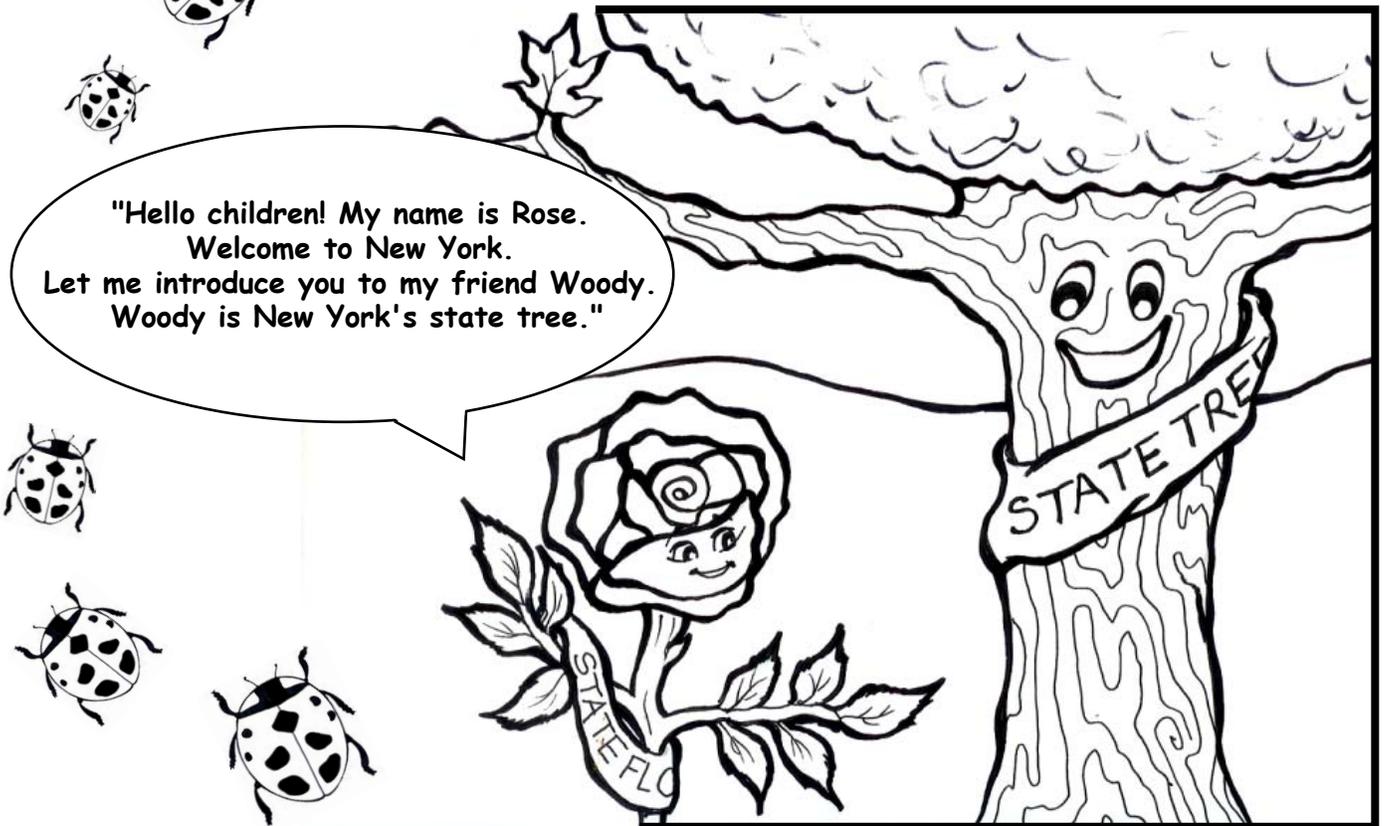


So, Dylan and Jaime visited the governor of New York. He took the children on a walk in a beautiful garden and introduced them to some of his friends.

"Children, this is Rose. She is New York's state flower." the governor said.



"Hello children! My name is Rose. Welcome to New York. Let me introduce you to my friend Woody. Woody is New York's state tree."

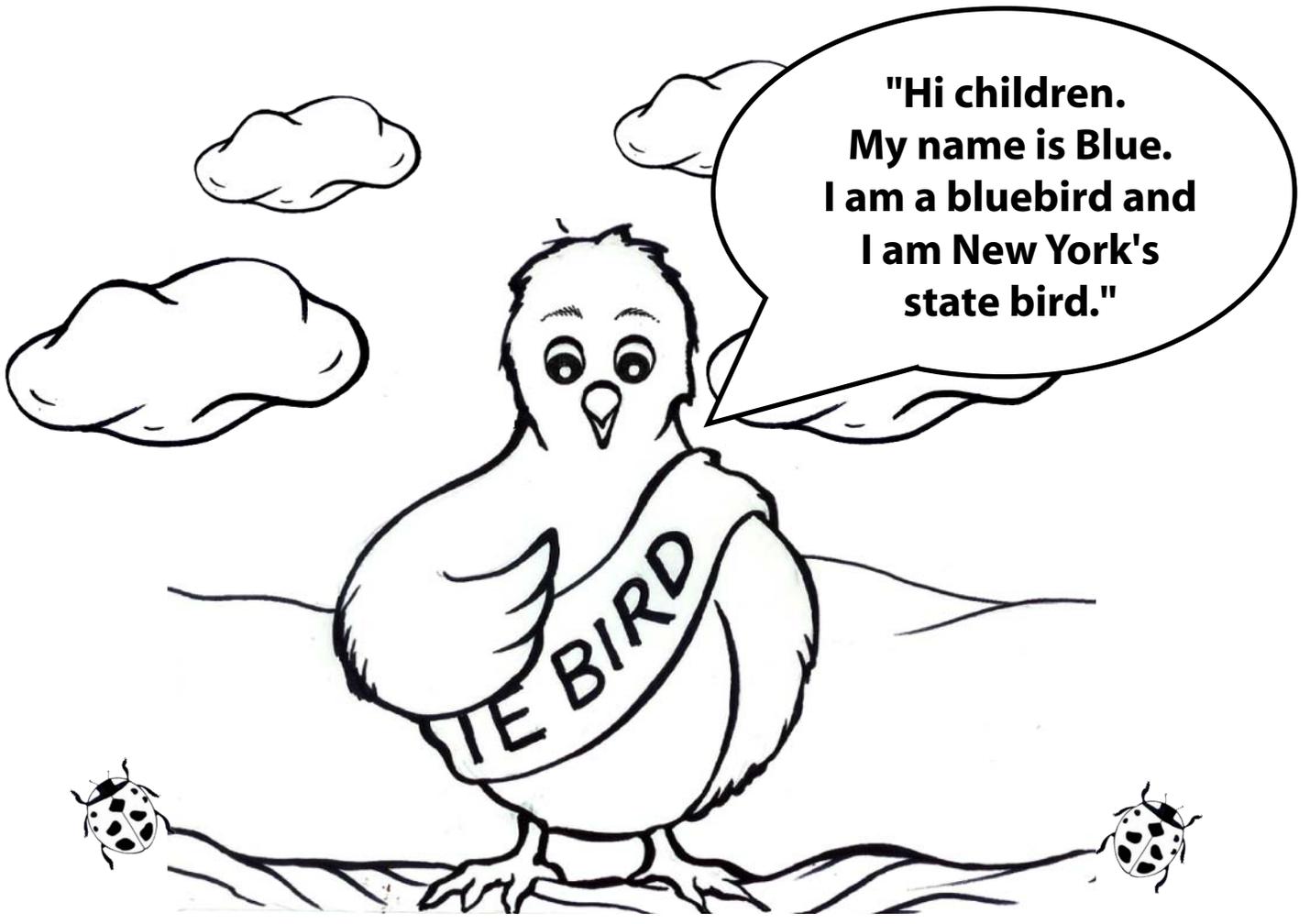




"Hello! My name is Woody.
I am a sugar maple and the state of
New York has named me its
state tree."

"Oh look!
Here comes our
friend Blue."





**"Hi children.
My name is Blue.
I am a bluebird and
I am New York's
state bird."**

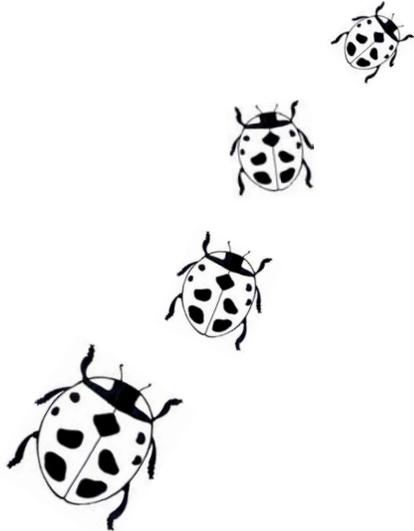


**"Hi, everyone!
Nice to meet you all.
Do you have any
more friends?"**

"Well,
there's our friend Cindy,
but we haven't seen her
in a long time."



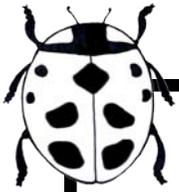
"Who is Cindy?"



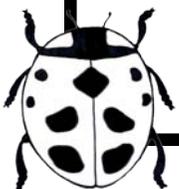
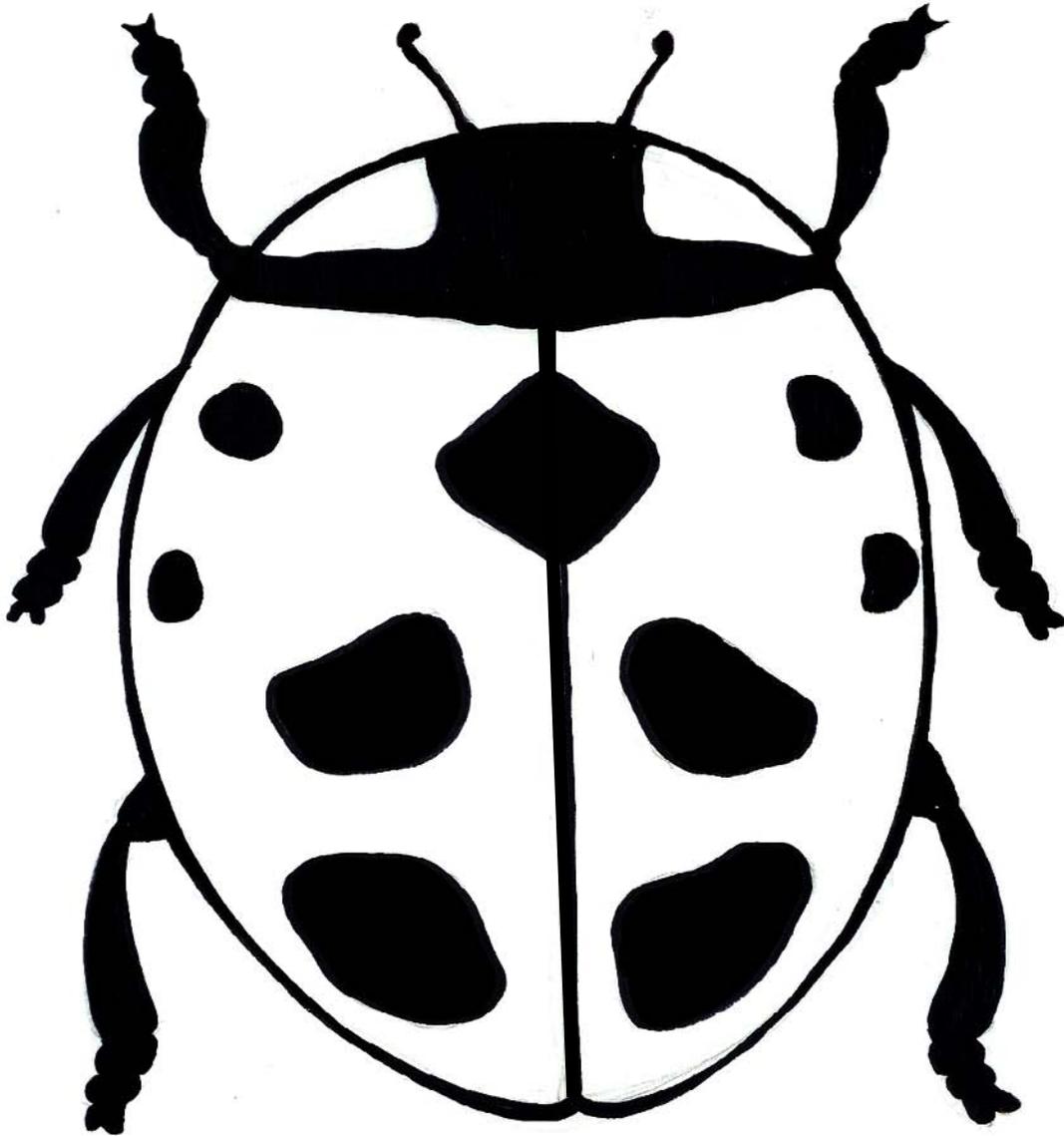
"Cindy is a ninespotted
ladybug and she is New York's
state insect."







**Cindy is reddish orange
with nine black spots on her outer wings.
She has four black spots on each of her wings
with a split spot in the middle.
She also has a white fringed neck.**



The next day Dylan and Jaime start their search for ladybugs in a farmer's field, and they find one!



"Okay, but can we take your picture before we go? We want to take pictures of all ladybugs we meet!"

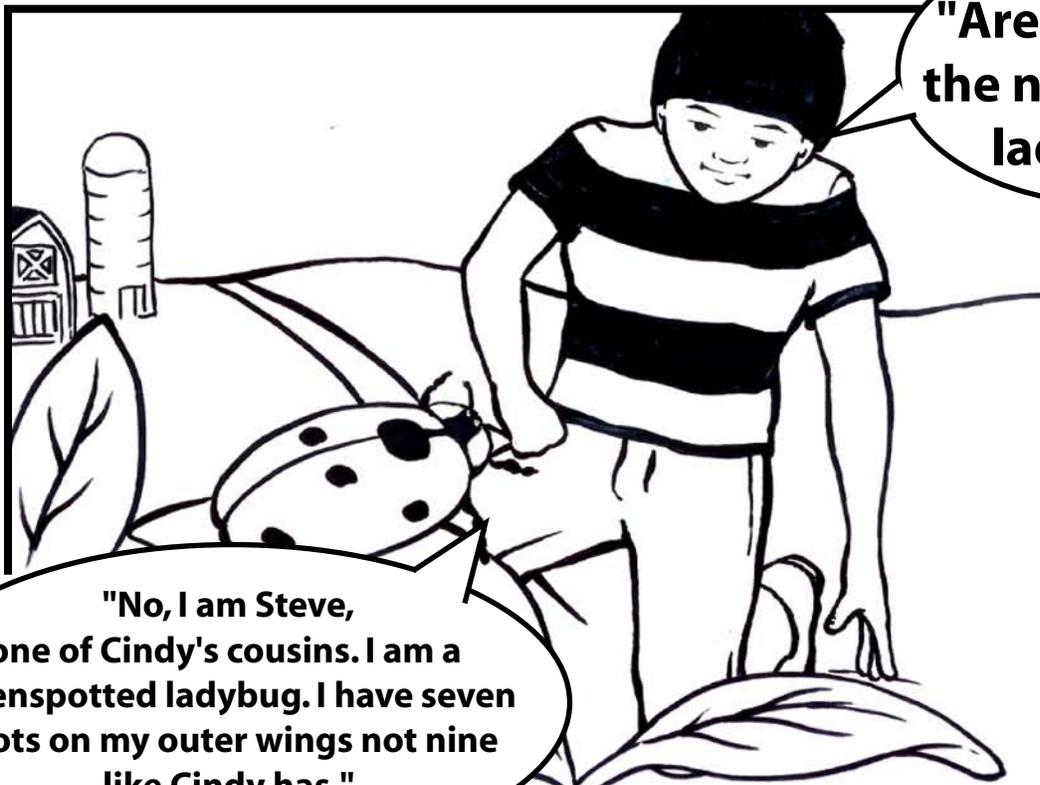
"Sure you can take my picture! Be sure to show my converging lines!"



After the children take a picture of Connie, they walk to the grassy meadow where they find another ladybug.

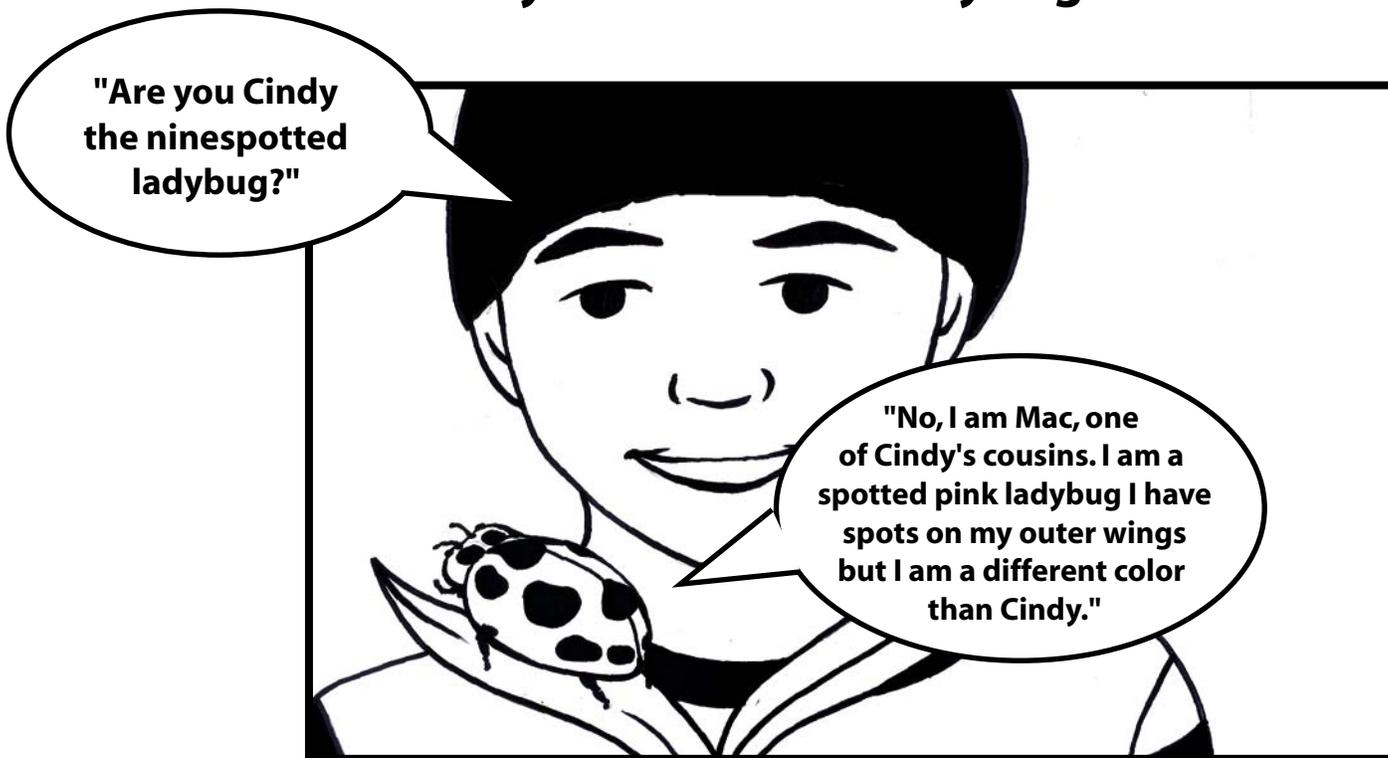
"Are you Cindy the ninespotted ladybug?"

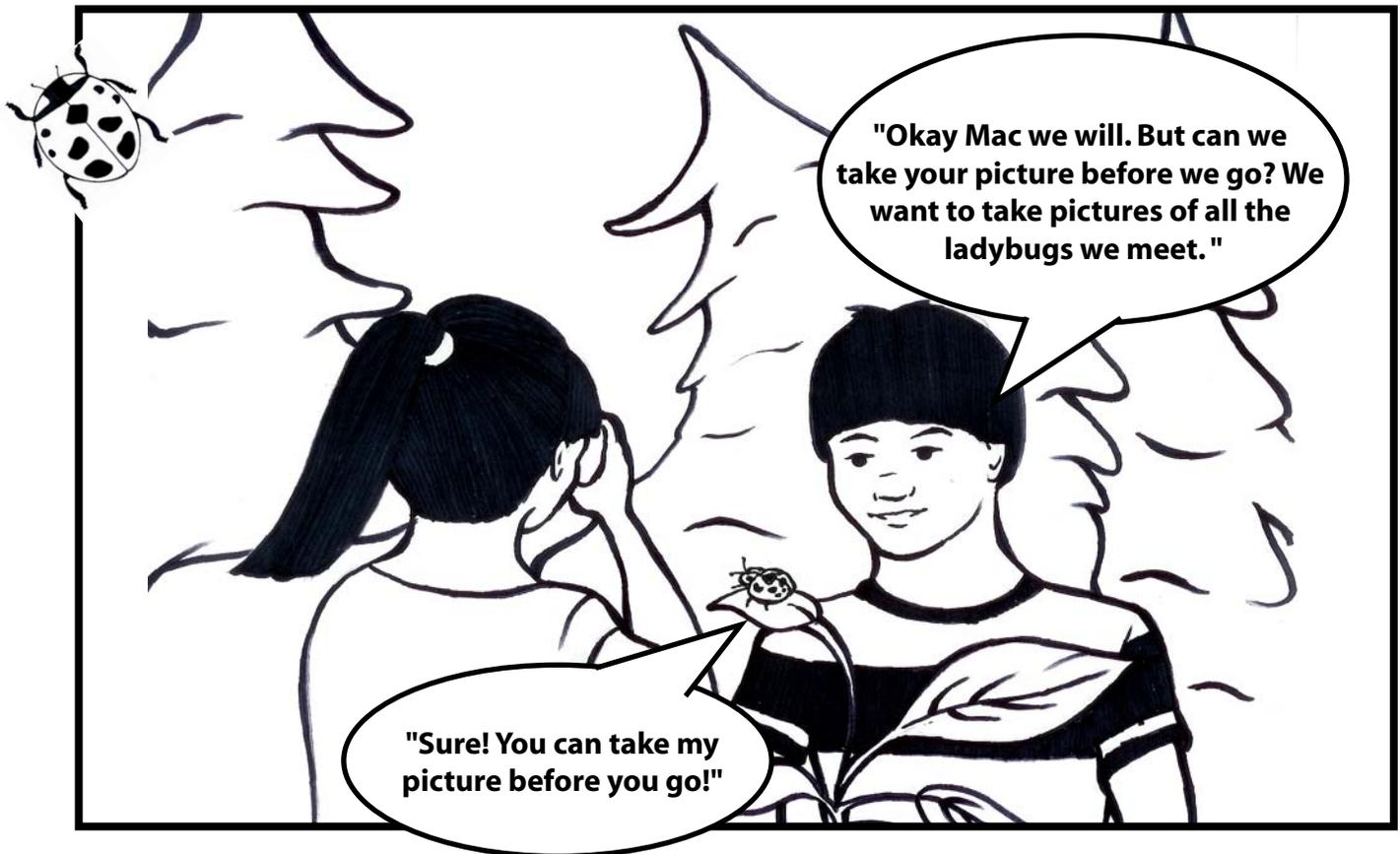
"No, I am Steve, one of Cindy's cousins. I am a sevenspotted ladybug. I have seven spots on my outer wings not nine like Cindy has."





After Dylan and Jaime take Steve's picture, they walk to the woods where they find another ladybug.





After Dylan and Jaime take Mac's picture they begin walking home. On their way they ask every girl and boy they meet to help find Cindy, the ninespotted ladybug.

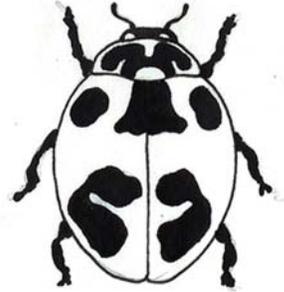
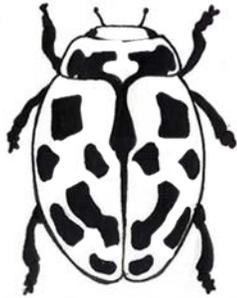


Can you help us find Cindy?
Maybe she lives in your state!



Lost Ladybug Matching Game

Draw a line from the **name** of the ladybug to the **drawing**!



multicolored Asian ladybug *Harmonia axyridis*

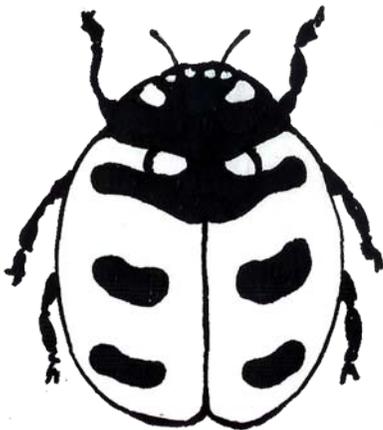
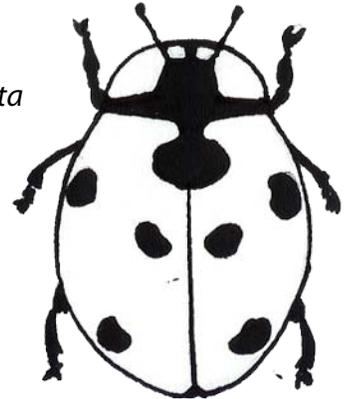
checkerspot ladybug *Propylea quatuordecimpunctata*

convergent ladybug *Hippodamia convergens*

twospotted ladybug *Adalia bipunctata*

spotted pink ladybug *Coleomegilla maculata*

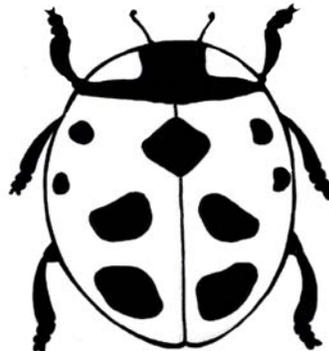
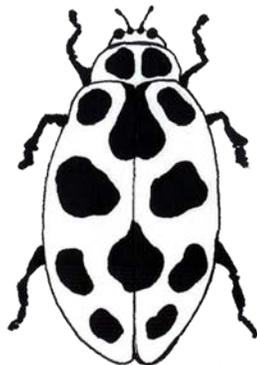
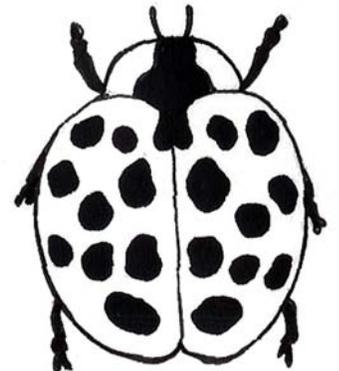
parenthesis ladybug *Hippodamia parenthesis*



sevenspotted ladybug *Coccinella septempunctata*

ninespotted ladybug *Coccinella novemnotata*

transverse ladybug *Coccinella transversoguttata*





All across North America certain species of native ladybugs, including the New York State insect, are disappearing! In just the last 20 years these beneficial predators of farm and garden pests have become extremely rare. This rapid decline is of great concern. If we can find where the rare ninespotted, the twospotted, and the transverse ladybugs still live we may learn why this has happened and be able to save them.

The Lost Ladybug Project was set in motion at a small number of schools in New York State in 2004. One of the first major discoveries came in 2006 when Jilene (age 11) and Jonathan (age 10) Penhale found a rare ninespotted ladybug near their Virginia home. This was the first ninespotted ladybug seen in the eastern U.S. in 14 years. Their finding confirmed that the species was not extinct and that with enough people working together we could find this rare ladybug.

With recent funding from the National Science Foundation the Lost Ladybug Project has expanded and now anyone can participate. From our website (www.lostladybug.org) you can learn how to catch, photograph, and send images of ladybugs and contribute to the database. Every ladybug you find (over 400 species in the U.S.!), rare or common, native or exotic, is important. Even if you collect 20 of the same species we would like to see them all because that tells us how common or rare those ladybug species are in your area. The project will continue for years to come. Collections from the same locations over the years will be especially useful!

The Lost Ladybug Project gives kids (and adults) a chance to be real citizen scientists. The pictures you send will be part of ongoing scientific inquiry and will help us find out where the ladybugs have gone and why they have gone. At www.lostladybug.org you can find educational materials ranging from poetry, games, and instructions for homemade sweep nets, to data surfing and mapping. Parents and youth leaders will find this a fun way to convey concepts of biodiversity and conservation.

Hurry! There may be a rare ladybug in your back yard right now!

Find 'em, Photograph 'em, Send 'em

For tips on successful ladybug searches and reports of the latest finds go to:

WWW.LOSTLADYBUG.ORG

