Ladybug Countdown

Story by Allyn Fisher
Art by Dixie McCartney & Jami Smith

This story is excerpted from the read-aloud books included in the Bridges in Mathematics Pre-K curriculum. This math-rich collection features theme-based counting and numeral recognition, sequencing, shapes and locations, and very early addition and subtraction. For more information about these books, including how to order the full printed collection of nine titles, visit store.mathlearningcenter.org/bridges-2nd-edition/2bkread.asp.

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10 little ladybugs
crawling on a vine
one stopped to eat a moth,
and then there were nine.
9 little ladybugs
Looking for a mate
One rested on a rock,
And then there were eight.
8 little ladybugs
Flying in the heavens
One landed on a leaf,
And then there were seven.
7 little ladybugs
Sitting on a stick
One found a bug to eat,
And then there were six.
6 little ladybugs
Trying to survive
One played dead,
the others fled,
And then there were five.
5 little ladybugs
Caught in a downpour
One hid beneath a leaf,
And then there were four.
4 little ladybugs
Climbing up a tree
One stopped along a branch,
And then there were three.
3 little ladybugs
On aphids they did chew
One stopped to wash her face,
And then there were two.
2 little ladybugs
Relaxing in the sun
One went to drink a drop,
And then there was one.
1 little ladybug
Decided she was done.
She flew away,
She didn’t stay,
And then there were none.
little ladybugs
Crawling on a vine.
They’ve all gone home,
So long, goodbye,
And everything is fine.