

# Golf Ball Ladybug

Make a ladybug using a golf ball for the body, a plastic bottle for the wings, a wooden bead for the head, and wire for the antennae and legs.

**Note:** If there is an entomologist in the group, they might notice that our ladybug is missing two legs. If anyone notices, give them a prize.

### You will need:

- Old golf ball
- Plastic water or soda bottle
- 1/2" wooden bead
- 2 vinyl-coated jumbo paper clips (about 2" long)
- Wire (about 10" long)
- Acrylic paint (black and red)
- Pencil with unused eraser tip
- Paintbrush
- Screw eye (about 1" long)
- Screw (about 1" long)
- Screwdriver
- Needle-nose pliers
- Wire cutters
- Awl or X-Acto knife with new blade
- Aleene's Tacky Glue
- Ruler

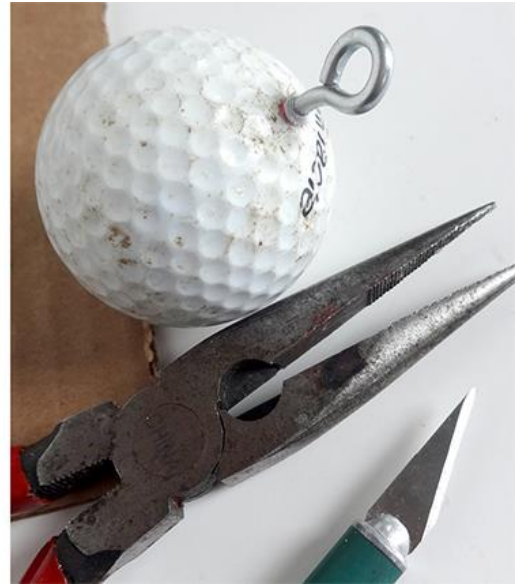


Print a [picture of a completed ladybug](#) to show crafters. Post a copy on your bulletin board to create interest in the activity.

### Directions:

1. To make the wings, cut two teardrop shapes out of a plastic bottle as shown in the first photo on the following page. Each wing should be about 1 1/4" X 2". Cutting the wings from the curved portion near the top of the bottle will give you wings that are similar to the curved shell of a real ladybug.

- Using a pencil eraser, stamp black paint dots to the underside of each wing as shown. Set aside to dry.

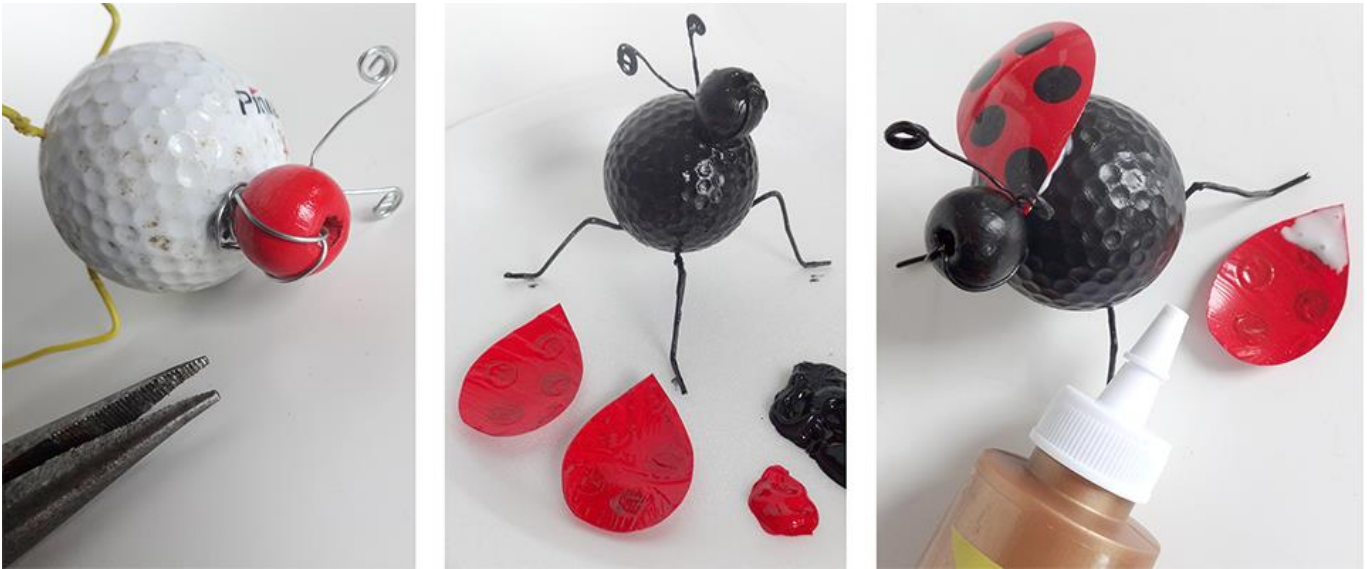


- To make the legs, you will need to make four holes in the golf ball, spaced 1" apart. Use an awl or the tip of an X-Acto knife to start the holes. Make the holes larger by turning a screw eye all the way into the ball and then unscrewing it back out. Use needle-nose pliers to help turn the screw eye.
- Unbend two paper clips and cut them in half with wire cutters as shown.



- Add a dab of glue to one end of each paper clip leg and insert one into each hole. Bend the legs to make knees and feet. The distance between the ball and knees should be about 1/2". The distance between the knees and feet should be about 1". Cut off the excess wire to make the feet about 1/4" to 1/2" long.

6. Make another puncture hole where the head should be and turn a screw into the ball until the head of the screw is about 1/8" from the surface of the ball. Wrap the center of a 10" wire around the screw two times as shown in the center photo on the previous page. Turn the screw a few more times to make the head of the screw as flush as possible to the surface of the ball.
7. Slide a 1/2" wooden bead onto the wires and bend the wires down over the bead to hold it tightly in place as shown on the previous page.
8. Then wrap the wires around the "neck" of the lady bug as shown below. Bend the wires upward and coil the ends with needle-nose pliers to make the antennae.



9. Paint the ladybug black, including the body, head, and legs. Paint the underside of the wings red as shown above. Allow the paint to dry for several hours or overnight.
10. Glue the wings to the body as shown.

### Uses:

- Place at the base of a large plant as a curiosity.
- Use as a paperweight.
- A ladybug is considered good luck, so take it along the next time you play bingo.



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