

## Learning Activity



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Extra - The Ladybug Poem

In a recent email conversation with journalist Robert Bellafiore, he wrote “We were in the [Associated Press’s] Capitol bureau and when this news came down we were trying to find a way to have fun with it. An official insect isn’t exactly hard-hitting government news and it didn’t make sense to write it with the usual AP news style. So it was fun to find a different way to say it and the poem seemed like a great vehicle...The AP’s editors selected it to be included in the batch of stories sent to news organizations around the world, which was pretty cool.”

# Cuomo signs bill that makes ladybug official state insect

By Robert Bellafiore  
The Associated Press

*ALBANY — Ladybug, ladybug, New York is your home.  
Your fame is ensured, the job has been done.  
Gov’nor Cuomo says you’re his bug — you alone.  
Ladybug, ladybug, New York is your home.*

*Good Gov’nor Cuomo has ruled on a bill.  
It makes you state insect, oh what a thrill!  
The bluebird, the beaver, the rose and the trout,  
They’ve all gone ’ere you for New Yorkers to tout.*



**THE LADYBUG**

... New York is its home

*Ladybug, ladybug, good company you suit  
With apples for muffins and as fruit to boot.  
Garnet as gem, sugar maples as trees  
And fossil Eurypteris, a scorpion of seas.*

*New York is your land, where milk is the choice  
Empire for beetles, even you have a voice.  
You’ve earned your new title, your honorable nom;  
Excelsior! little ladybug, good rest in your home.*

This is a picture of Mr. Bellafiore at a “gaggle” - an informal press briefing about something that is happening in our government.

How can you creatively spread the news about your idea? You could write a poem, a rap, a song, or create a short video or social media post. Brainstorm ideas on the back of this page, then take your best idea and get to work!

