

# Ladybird!



**Ladybird, Ladybird,  
Where is your home?  
Your children aren't sleeping,  
They're big now, they've grown!  
They're off out in the wide world,  
They've spread wings and flown!  
Ladybird, Ladybird,  
Home on your own,  
Now it is your time,  
To take off, to roam!**

by J.R.Poulter, 2019

# Teacher Notes & Activities to accompany “Ladybird!” by J.R. Poulter

What do you notice about the poem’s shape?



Do you see any similarities with the shape of the Ladybird in the picture?

The poet did not start out by planning to write a “shape” poem. But as she continued writing, she soon realised that the poem was similar in shape to the subject of the poem, a Ladybird!  
*Activity:* Write a shape poem of your own,

The poem also gives a nod to a nursery rhyme that starts with the same first line.

*Activity:* See if you can find that nursery rhyme and compare it to “Ladybird!” - what is similar and what is different?

*Activity:* Write and illustrate your own version of one of your favourite nursery rhymes.

References for the nursery rhyme:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ladybird\\_Ladybird](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ladybird_Ladybird) [various versions]

<https://allnurseryrhymes.com/ladybird-ladybird/> [origins]

<https://catholicismpure.wordpress.com/2013/11/13/three-nursery-rhymes-with-surreptitiously-sinister-origins/> [underlying, often sinister political, meanings were given to many nursery rhymes]