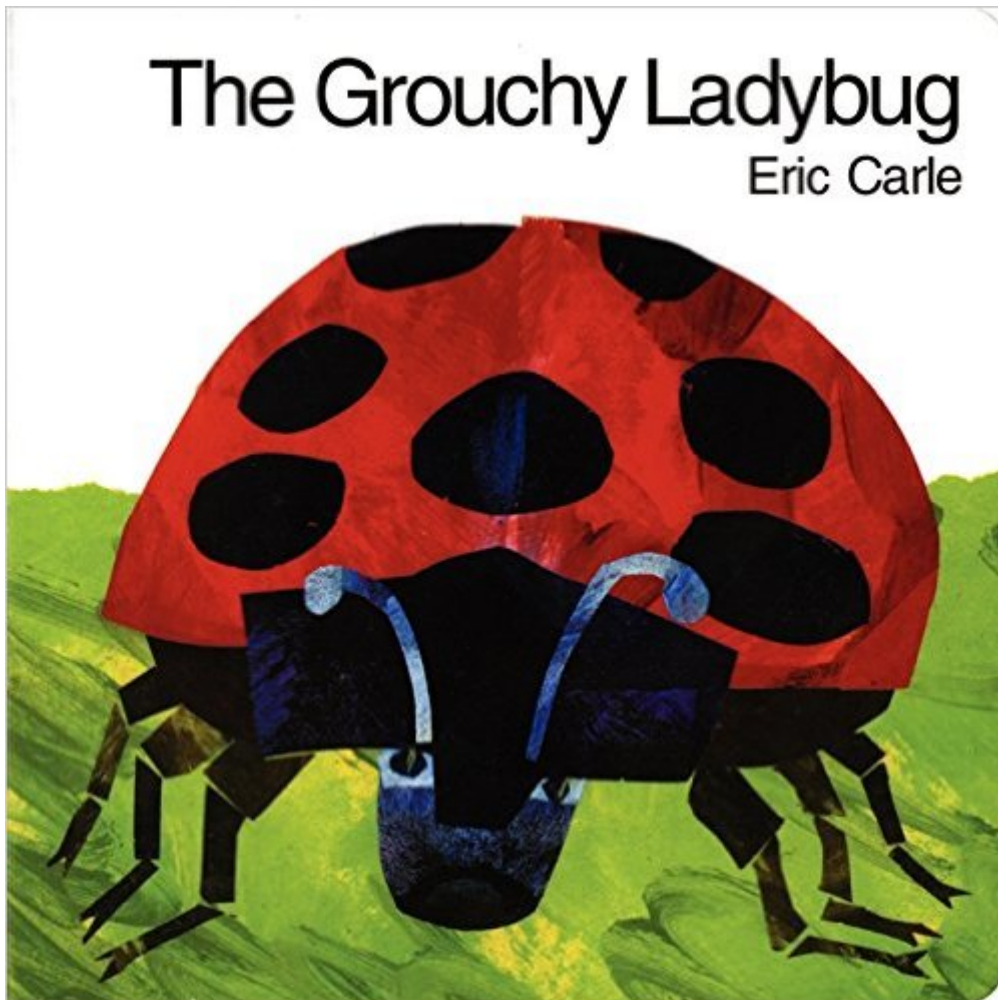


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# The Grouchy Ladybug



## Synopsis

This beloved Eric Carle classic returns once again in a colorful new board book format. For generations, The Grouchy Ladybug has delighted readers of all ages with the story of a bad-tempered bug who won't say "please" or "thank you," won't share, and thinks she is bigger and better than anyone else. As children follow the Grouchy Ladybug on her journey, they will learn the important concepts of time, size, and shape, as well as the benefits of friendship and good manners.

## Book Information

Age Range: 3 - 4 years

Lexile Measure: 560 (What's this?)

Board book: 44 pages

Publisher: HarperFestival; Brdbk edition (September 8, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 069401320X

ISBN-13: 978-0694013203

Product Dimensions: 7 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (276 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #3,231 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in [Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Time](#) #8 in [Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Size & Shape](#) #9 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Bugs & Spiders](#)

## Customer Reviews

I understand why many people don't like the Grouchy Lady bug character running around saying, "Hey, you! Wanna fight?" But these people are missing the point. You are not supposed to like this ladybug. He's a jerk. He doesn't want to share. He's rude, even when everyone around him is gracious. He's a blowhard and coward, who runs away when ever someone stands up to him. And in the end, he reaps what he sows and learns his lesson. He is the perfect negative example for a moody, tempestuous 2 year old! Our daughter had a rough day and lost her head at daycare, hitting and kicking other kids at the slightest provocation. Not cool. In addition to time outs, forced appologies to the other kids and parents, and stern reprimands from both my wife and me, we picked up this book at the library and it was the perfect thing. After setting up what a jerk the Grouchy Ladybug was, we pointed out that she had been a little grouchy that day. "Yeah," she agreed. We then went on to point out that not only is wrong to hit others, for all of the the reasons we listed that

day, but also because sooner or later someone's going to hit back..."and that's no good. So why do it?" "Oh..." she said. We're delighted to see this book is still in print. I'm buying my own copy right now. The book isn't perfect, but it's entertaining and educational.

For all the adults who have written negative reviews of this book, let me say this: I'm 31 years old and I STILL remember this book and love it. I first read it when I was in grade school and I loved the book so much that tonight I remembered reading it, I couldn't remember what it was about but I remembered it was about a ladybug. I decided to find it online and I did a search on children's books about ladybugs and found it. I was so happy to see it was still in print and had the same cover it did when I was in grade school. My point is this: if you allow young children to read this book you need to take the time to explain why the grouchy ladybug wanted to fight all the time. It's a great book to teach kids how to deal with anger and frustration when someone upsets them or they're having a bad day. This book is not something to shield your children from, use it as an opportunity to teach them. Kids are going to be introduced to these NORMAL issues in life anyway, this is a safe way to instruct children about these sorts of issues. My goodness people, with all the horrible violent things portrayed on television and the graphic images in video games I'm stunned that parents make such a huge fuss over this children's book.

Not only have both my kids enjoyed reading this book over and over again, but I think it is a very interesting book. It allows parents to talk with their kids about right and wrong behavior, about cooperation and conflict, about standing up against bullies. Also, depending on the age of your child, you can teach basic time telling, increasing sizes, the cycle of day to night (from nighttime, to sunrise, to sun overhead at noon, etc.) A very unique book which fosters discussion between parents and kids.

Carle's story explores the concepts of time, size and manners through the exploits of one very grouchy ladybug. When it refuses to share aphids with another ladybug, the grouchy insect flies off to pick a fight an hour with a succession of ever-larger animals. Kids will love the way the tension seems to build in the story. Will the ladybug get its comeuppance? Or will it learn to mind its manners? (If you don't remember, you'll just have to read it yourself to find out!) Carle employs his almost trademarked tissue paper and tempera collages to great effect here as he renders more than a dozen different animals. He includes a clock face at the top of each page, to help kids track the passing of time. A good book to read when you or your little one is in a grouchy mood. This is one of

those classic picture books that doesn't lose anything in the translation to board book. If anything, it is improved since the die-cut pages hold up a lot better when they are made of thick board.

What a terrific story for a child of any age! I purchased this book because of its wonderful illustrations. I read it to my young (under a year) son almost every day, and he remains mesmerized by the pictures on each page. The story itself is wonderful. It is as much about manners and the power of a positive attitude as it is about picking on someone your own size! I also love that the book takes the grouchy ladybug through her day hour by hour with illustrated clocks to help children learn to tell time. My sister teaches 1st grade, and her students love this book as well. I think it is one of Carle's better books, and I highly recommend it.

The Grouchy Ladybug is a wonderful Eric Carle book. I love his mosaic illustrations, and the moral he projects. The grouchy ladybug is mean to all the other insects that he meets. He does not want to share the aphids on his leaf with the friendly ladybug. He ends up making no friends at all, and the animals he is rude to are getting bigger and fiercer as the book goes on. In the end the grouchy ladybug ends up on the same leaf he started out on, and shares the aphids. Note to teachers: This is a great book to introduce a unit on insects. Most students probably don't understand what aphids are, and the ladybugs feed on them. You could also incorporate all of the other animals in the text to do a unit on animals. There are so many wonderful teaching opportunities with all of Eric Carle's books, but this is one of my favorites.

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