



'What the Ladybird Heard' by Julia Donaldson. In this story we see lots of animals on a farm all with their own unique voice... except, a ladybird who doesn't seem to speak at all – until one night naughty robbers threaten to steal her friend.

#### Biblical Reference:

##### Colossians 4:6

*'Be gracious in your speech. The goal is to bring out the best in others in a conversation, not put them down.'*

#### Next month's book is:

'The Squirrels who squabbled' by Rachel Bright

#### Inspiration ...

If you do not have this book, you could borrow it from the library or watch a re-telling of the story on YouTube.

 <https://youtu.be/abKadke35cs>

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## Theme: Being Responsible

### Theme exploration:

In this story we see a little ladybird who doesn't feel the need to speak all the time and isn't really chatty like her friends. At the most important moment, however, the ladybird speaks up to help save her friend. The Bible tells us that speech and action are very important. We have a responsibility to those around us to use our words with kindness and wisdom: to treat others how we want them to treat us. The Bible tells us we also have a responsibility to use our voice and our actions to stand up against the wrongs in our world when we see it is needed. This could seem to be a heavy burden but as Christians we know that God will help us. God goes with us every day, as we encourage one another to use our power to make the world a better place.

#### Proverbs 31: 8-9

*'Speak up for people who cannot speak for themselves. Protect the rights of all who are helpless.'*

#### Things for you to try this month:

- Find ways to recycle items you don't currently recycle.
- Make a kindness bingo grid. Find the example of how to do this here: <https://smallactbigimpact.com/for-educators/elementary-school-resources-k-5/kindness-bingo/>
- For little ones: Use your voice in a game where you say a word from a little whisper, getting gradually louder until you can shout it as loud as possible.
- For older ones: find out about a charity that helps protect the earth.



### We believe in the power of prayer

#### A prayer to pray for your family:

*Jesus, thank You for trusting us with the precious gift of our child/ren. We pray that You will give our child/ren the spirit of boldness, courage and love so that they can be beacons of light in the world. Amen.*

#### A prayer we pray for You as parents:

*Lord God, thank You that You created us all with an amazing capacity for love and compassion. We pray that when faced with injustice You will equip this family with the gifts of boldness, courage and discernment, to bring about your will. Amen.*