



THE BAD TEMPERED LADYBIRD

Early one morning the sun came up. A friendly *hungry* ladybird saw a *leaf* with many aphids on and decided to *eat* the aphids for breakfast. At that moment a *bad-tempered ladybird* landed on the *leaf*. It was *hungry* too and wanted to *eat* the aphids for breakfast.

So the *bad-tempered ladybird* shouted "Go away. I want to *eat* the aphids."
"We can *share* them" replied the friendly *hungry* ladybird.
But the *bad-tempered ladybird* did not want to *share*.
So it said "No, they're mine, all mine. Or do you want to fight me for them?"
"If you insist" replied the friendly *hungry* ladybird.
"Oh you're not big enough for me to fight." said the *bad-tempered ladybird* and it flew off to find someone *bigger*.

First it met a stag beetle, a shiny, smooth stag beetle.
"Hey you, want to fight?" said the *bad-tempered ladybird*.
"If you insist" replied the stag beetle, *opening its jaws*.
"Oh... you're not big enough" said the *bad-tempered ladybird* and it flew off.

Next it met a gorilla, a big, brown gorilla.
"Hey you, want to fight?" said the *bad-tempered ladybird*.
"If you insist" replied the gorilla, *beating its chest*.
"Oh... you're not big enough" said the *bad-tempered ladybird* and it flew off.

Then it met an elephant, a great, grey elephant.
"Hey you, want to fight?" said the *bad-tempered ladybird*.
"If you insist" replied the elephant, *raising its trunk and showing its big tusks*.
"Oh... you're not big enough" said the *bad-tempered ladybird* and it flew off.

Finally it met a whale, an enormous whale.
"Hey you, want to fight?" said the *bad-tempered ladybird*.
But the whale did not answer.
"Oh... you're not big enough" said the *bad-tempered ladybird* and it flew off.

After that it met the whale's fin.
"Hey you, want to fight?" said the *bad-tempered ladybird*.
But the whale did not answer.
"Oh... you're not big enough" said the *bad-tempered ladybird* and it flew off.

After that it met the whale's tail.

"Hey you, want to fight?" said the *bad-tempered ladybird*.

Suddenly the whale's tail gave the *bad-tempered ladybird* such a slap that it flew across the *sea* and across the *land* until it landed right back where it had started from.

"Hello" said the friendly ladybird. "You must be *hungry*. Do you want to eat some aphids?"

"Thank you" said the wet, tired and very hungry ladybird. "Want to share them?"