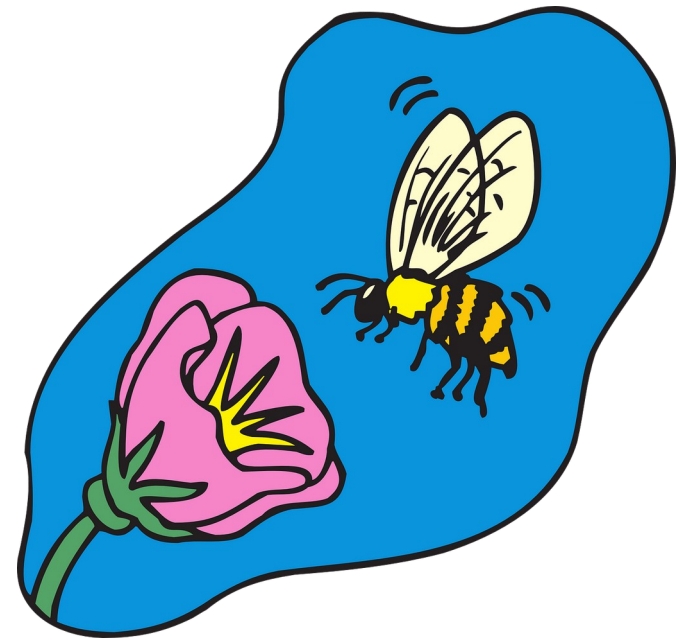


# Good Bugs

and

# Bad Bugs

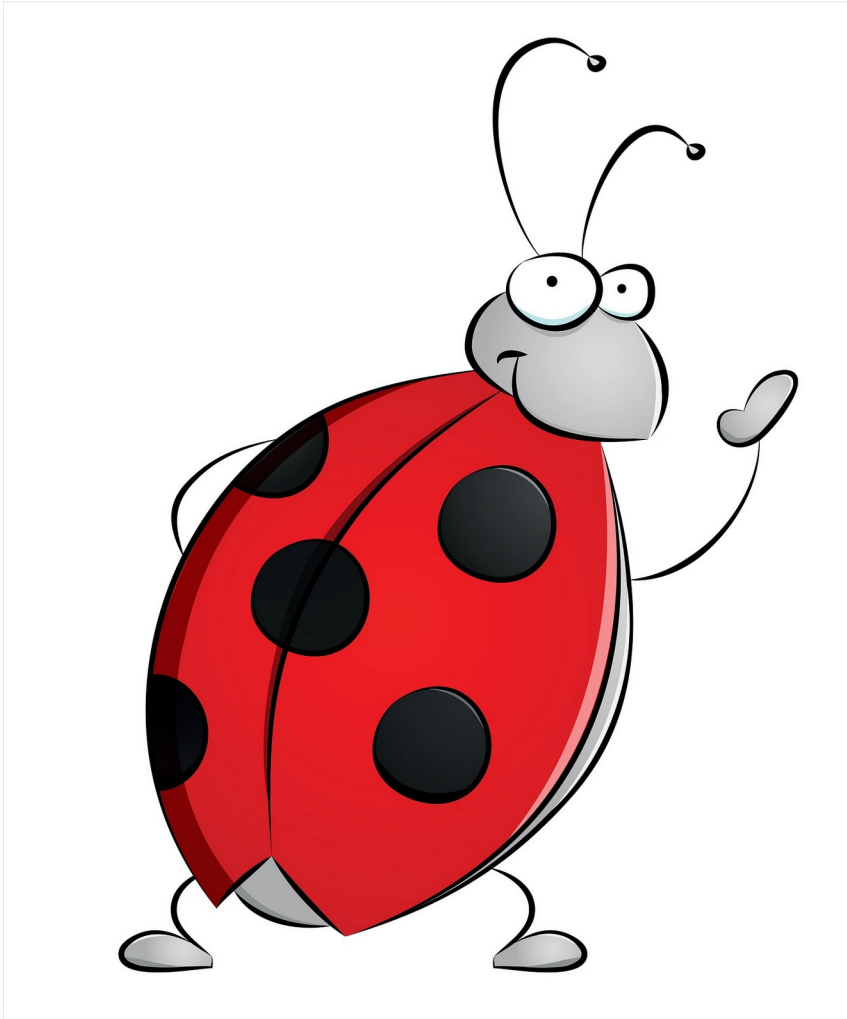
# In Your Garden



*A presentation by*



# The Good Bug Patrol



**Not all bugs you find in your garden should make you frown. Some bugs are beneficial (good) for your plants. Here are some of the insects we want to see in the garden.**

# Ladybugs

Ladybugs eat aphids, a 'bad' bug that feeds on the shoots and leaves of young plants. That “grouchy ladybug” is actually very good to have in your garden.



# Honeybees

Honeybees are exceptionally good pollinators.



Pollen clings to their fuzzy legs as they fly from flower to flower, helping to fertilize the flowers so they can make seeds that can turn into new plants.

# Spiders



**Who is most likely to get trapped in the garden spider's web? An insect that would eat your plants, that's who. So if you see a spider web in your garden, leave it alone.**

# Assassin Bugs



*Photo by Debbie Roos, extension agent  
North Carolina Cooperative Extension*

**An assassin bug eats other garden bugs by sticking its beak into its prey and pouring poison into the captive. Its bright colors warn predators that the assassin bug is poisonous.**

# Green Lacewings

The green lacewing is a small flying insect about  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch long with delicate green wings. Its larvae are voracious predators. That means they are very hungry and are always eating! The larva is called an aphid lion. It eats many insect pests with soft bodies.



*Photo courtesy Beneficial Insectary, Inc.*



# The Bad Bug Gang

The bugs that are bad for your garden eat your plants as their food. Some of these insects are so small you may only know they are there by the damage they do. Here are some of the insects we hope we don't find in our garden.





# Caterpillars



The very hungry caterpillar is a fact. These creatures will munch and munch on the leaves of your plants. You can often get rid of them by just picking them off the leaves.



# Aphids

Aphids are very small insects that can be very destructive to garden plants. These tiny winged insects suck the sap from leaves and stems, and can even transmit a virus that can kill the plant.



# Stink bugs



**Like skunks, stink bugs give off an unpleasant smell when they are threatened. This is the bug's defense against predators. Stink bugs feed on fruits and vegetables by using their mouths to pierce the plants. They are also a pest because they sometimes try to spend the winter months inside homes.**

# Leaf Hoppers



**The leaf hopper is another small bug with a big, bad impact. Only one-eighth to one-half inch long, leaf hoppers can jump and fly from plant to plant, piercing and sucking the sap.**

# Flea Beetles



**This small, shiny black beetle can jump and fly, as well as walk. You will know flea beetles have been in your garden if you find small holes in the leaves of your lettuce or other plants, and if you see what looks like small dots jumping around.**