

# Firefly Fun

## Science, Language Arts & Math

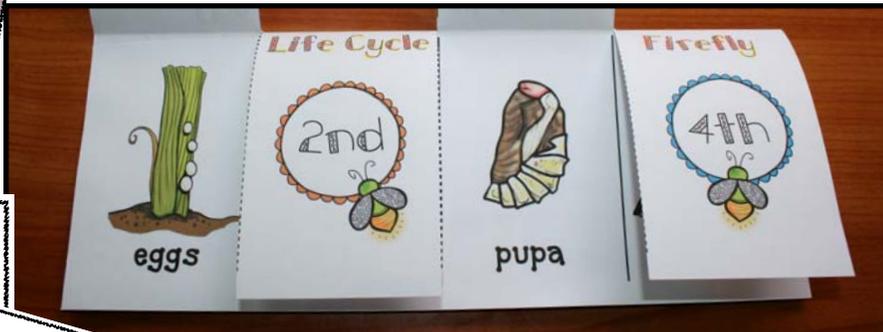
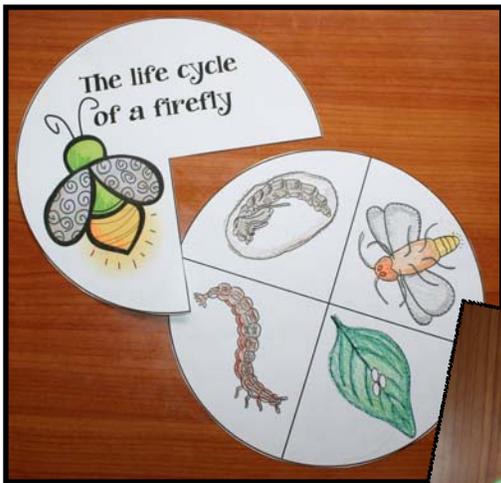


Let's Count Fireflies!

I made the fireflies with my fingerprints!

0 \_\_\_\_\_  
zero \_\_\_\_\_

1 \_\_\_\_\_  
one \_\_\_\_\_





My grandson Kaiden, who is 3, enjoyed making a "night wash" so that his firefly would appear. I also had him do his name. This activity can be done in PK. My Y5s, kinders, and 1st graders have also enjoyed doing watercolor washes.



#### Fingerprint fireflies in a jar craftivity:

Run off the pattern on blue construction paper. Royal blue as well as powder blue both look nice.

Brush a thin layer of yellow paint on a paper plate. Students dip their thumb into it and make however many fireflies in their jar that you want then to. Wipe off thumbs with a wet wipe. Then brush a thin layer of white paint on the plate. Children use their pinkie finger to make wings on either side of the yellow firefly thumbprints. Let dry. Add details with a black marker.

For added pizzazz, cut jar lids out of aluminum foil. Students glue to the top of their jars and add details with a black sharpie.

We do this activity after I read *10 Flashing Fireflies*, by Philemon Sturges. They make 10 lighting bugs in their jar. Here's a YouTube link to that story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HjUhHAPtIOA>



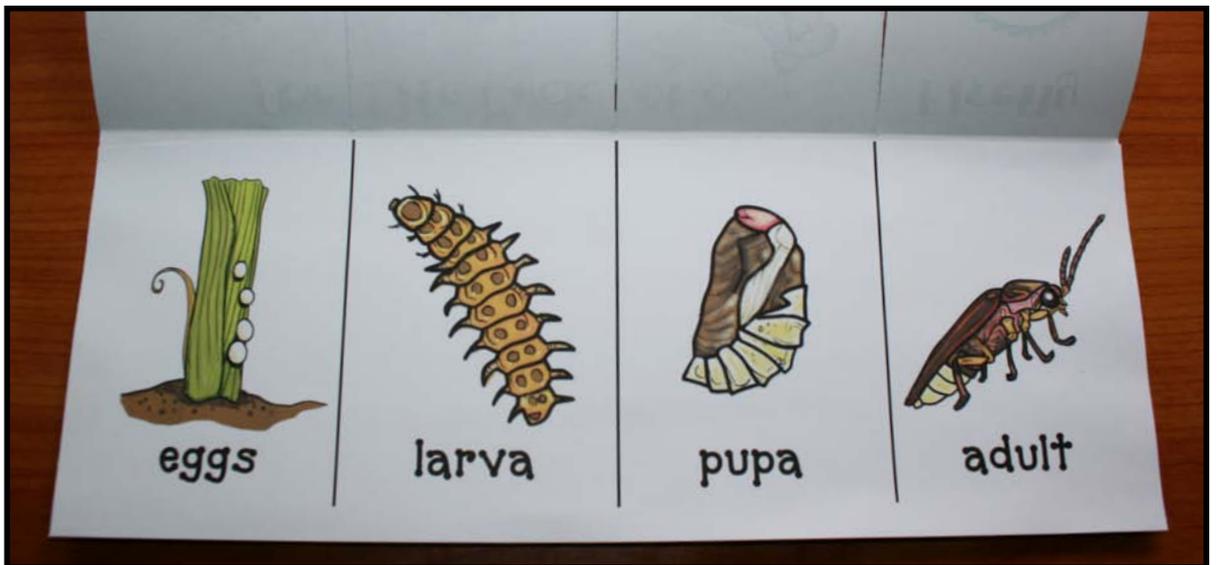
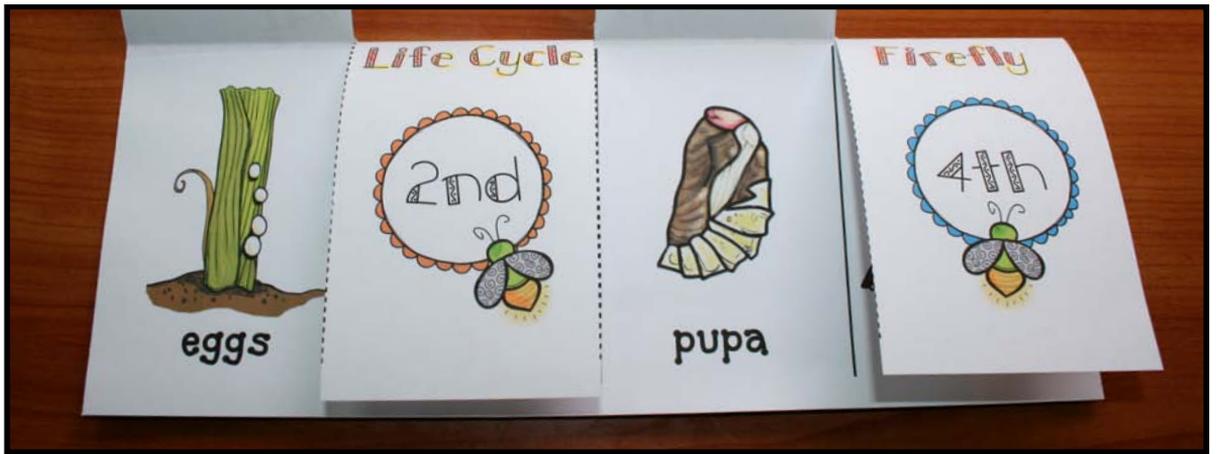
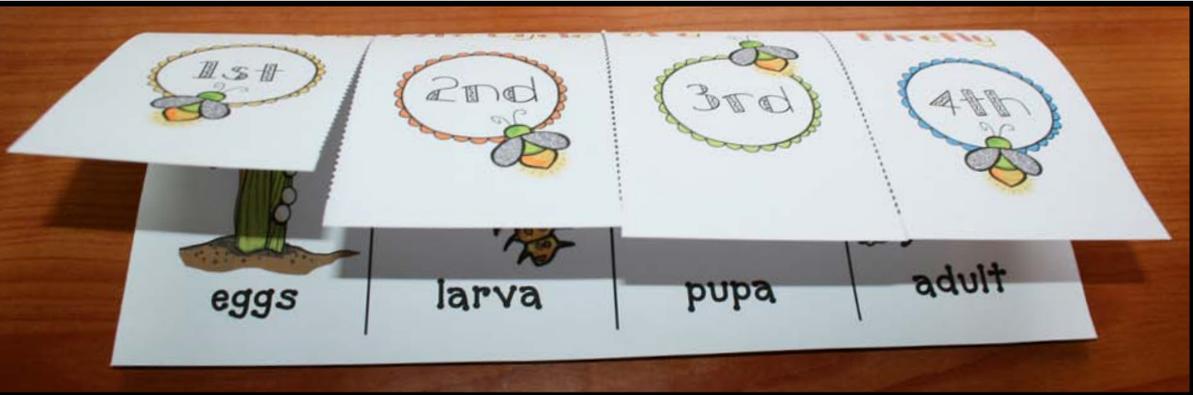
The life cycle  
of a firefly



The life cycle  
of a firefly



The Life Cycle of a Firefly







Diane's

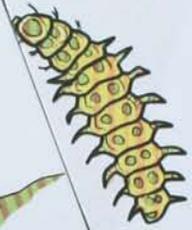
Life Cycle  
Of A  
Firefly  
Fun Facts



eggs



larva



pupa



adult



fly lays

ch in 3-4

ply, or

be inactive  
fly.

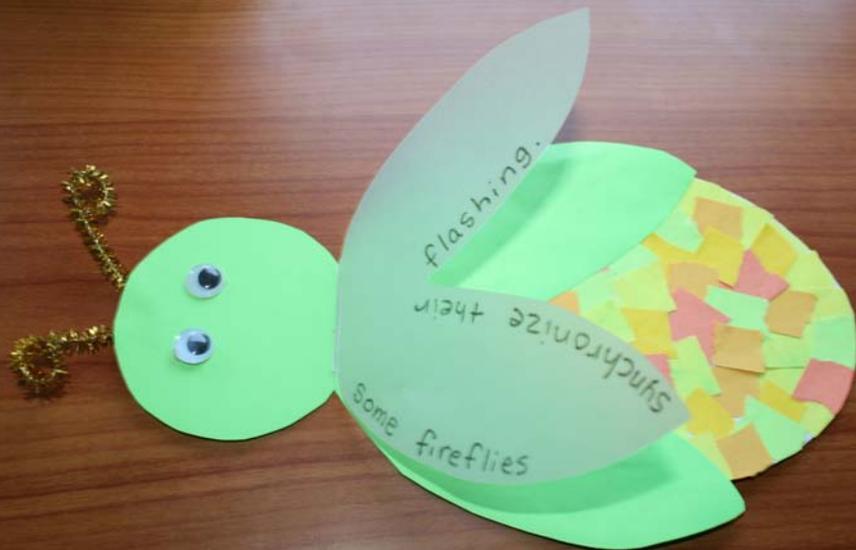
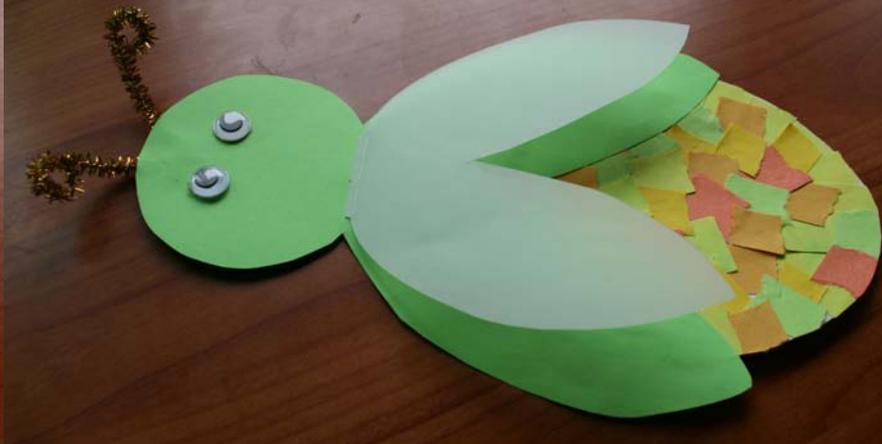
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Y will  
be pupa  
to

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Wishing a  
bright student  
a glowing summer!

I bought my "Glow Bracelets" from The Dollar store with 10 in a pack.

We turned out the lights, pulled the shades and read in the dark.

I've made templates for summer as well as back to school.



Wishing a *Kaiden*  
bright student  
a glowing summer!  
*Love, Mrs. Smith*



Wishing a bright student  
a glowing year!



Wishing a  
bright student  
a glowing year!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Label the firefly

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Label the firefly

antennae

head

thorax

abdomen

The wing covers are a dark brown that has a tannish yellow edge.

The head cover also has the same tannish yellow edge.

The abdomen is located under the wing covers. It is the midsection of the insect's body. It holds the head, legs, wings and abdomen.

The last segment of the abdomen lights up and flashes light, which can range from a bright yellow, to a yellowish-orange, to green or a yellowish green.

This is the segment that lights up.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Label the firefly

antennae

head

thorax

legs

wings

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Label the firefly

wings

legs

abdomen

thorax

head

antennae



The lightning bug is brilliant  
 But he hasn't any mind  
 He blunders through existence  
 With his headlight on behind

-Author  
 (Wildly circulate in 1880)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Pupa Comprehension Check

The pupa is the \_\_\_\_\_ stage of development of an insect.

The pupa is a part of the firefly's \_\_\_\_\_ cycle.

This is the stage where \_\_\_\_\_ takes place and the larva change into an adult firefly.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Larva Comprehension Check

\_\_\_\_\_ is the early stage of development of an insect.

After an insect lays \_\_\_\_\_ they hatch into larvae, which often look like \_\_\_\_\_.

Do larva eat a lot?

Larva is a part of the firefly's \_\_\_\_\_ cycle.



**Luminescence**  
 By Diane L. Henderson

I'm a firefly.  
 I flit  
 I flash  
 I flutter.  
 I float on a  
 summer night's breeze.  
 I dance in the dark  
 to the tunes  
 of the loons  
 the crickets  
 and frogs.  
 I'm free to frolic and  
 play  
 'til the moon slips  
 away.

www.mindful.com

What is larva or larvae?

Larvae is the plural of larva.

In the 17th and 18th centuries, scientists began to use this Latin word to describe the stage in an insect's life during which its final form is still hidden.

Larva is the early stage of development that differs greatly in appearance from its adult state.

What is a pupa?

A pupa is an insect's inactive form. This is a stage of it's life cycle as it undergoes a complete change called metamorphosis.

In the life of an insect the pupal stage comes after the larval stage and is the stage just before adulthood.

During this time the adult structures of the insect are formed while the larval structures are broken down.

Pupae are usually immobile and mostly defenseless. So they are not eaten, they are camouflaged. Their camouflaged color helps them blend in so they aren't easily seen.

When a firefly larvae is big enough, usually in late spring, it digs into the ground and builds a mud chamber in the soil and settles inside it.

This has a hard exterior shell that will protect it during this part of its life, while it undergoes a metamorphosis from a crawling larva to an adult firefly.

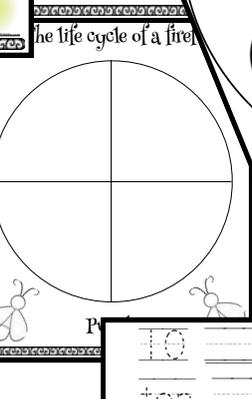
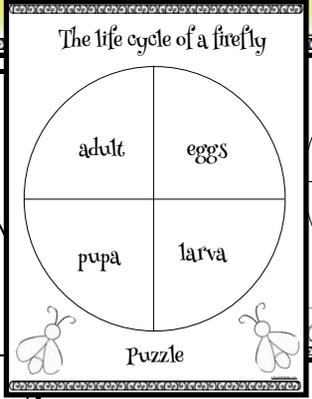
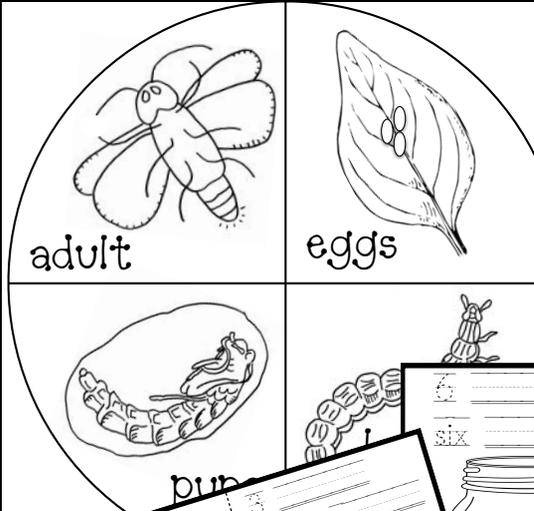
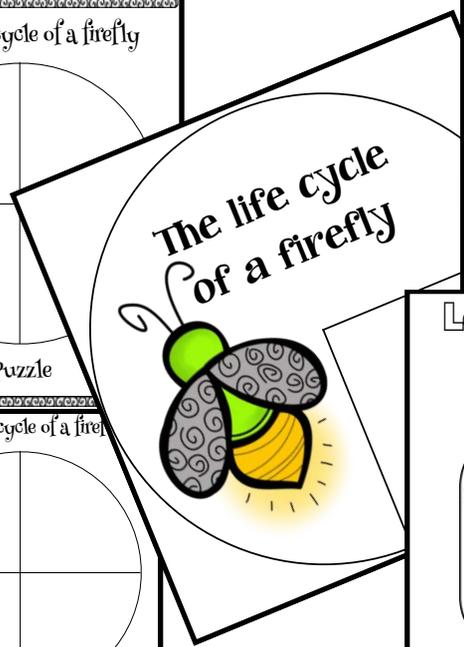
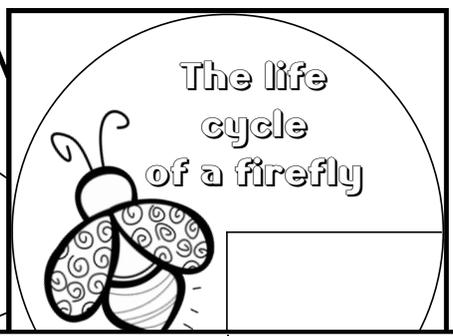
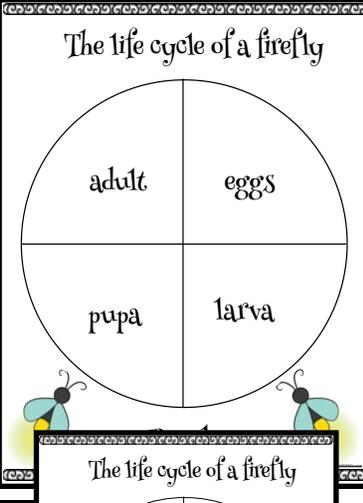
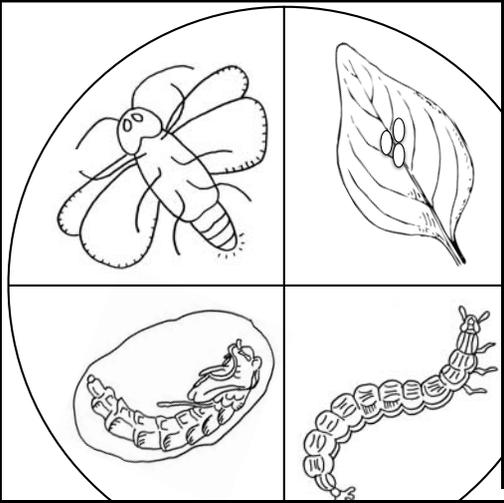
In other species of fireflies, the larva attaches itself to the bark of a tree, hanging upside down similar to what a caterpillar does.

A remarkable transformation takes place during the pupal stage. This process is called histolysis, where the larva's body is broken down, and special groups of "transforming" cells are activated.

These groups of cells trigger biochemical processes that change the insect from a larva into an adult firefly.

When the metamorphosis is complete, the adult firefly is ready to emerge in early summer, which usually takes about 10 days to several weeks after it becomes a pupa.

A butterfly's pupa stage is the chrysalis, for a moth it's a cocoon.



Let's Count Fireflies!

I made the fireflies with my fingerprints!

10 \_\_\_\_\_  
ten \_\_\_\_\_

I have 10 fireflies in my jar.

1 2 3 4  
5 6 7 8  
9 10

one \_\_\_\_\_

2 two  
3 three  
4 four  
5 five

6 six  
7 seven  
8 eight  
9 nine

It's time to let the fireflies go!  
Count backwards with me.

10 9 8 7  
6 5 4 3  
2 1 0

Hooray!  
The fireflies are free.

Let's Count Fireflies!

I made the fireflies with my fingerprints!

zero \_\_\_\_\_  
one \_\_\_\_\_

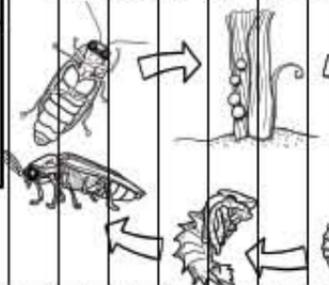
# Ff

Ff is for firefly

EEEEEEEEEE



10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80  
Life Cycle Of A Firefly



Fireflies are nocturnal.

Fireflies are also called lightning bugs.

The Life Cycle of a Firefly

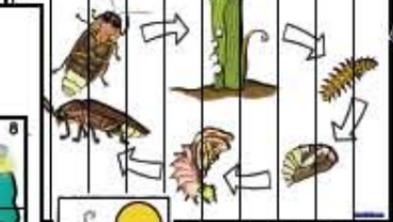
1st

2nd

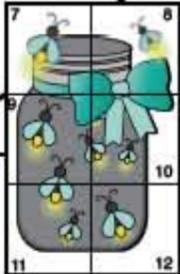
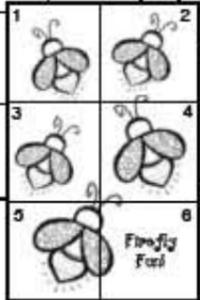
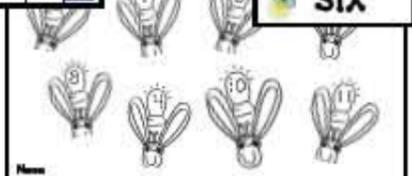
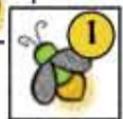
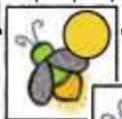
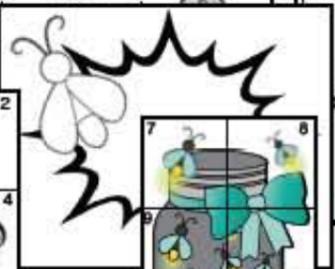
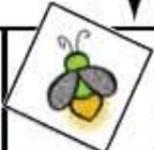
3rd

4th

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3  
Life Cycle Of A Firefly

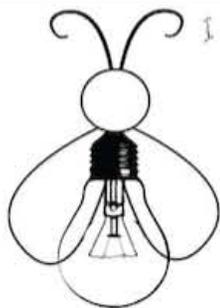


- zero
- one
- two
- three
- four
- five
- six



Firefly Fun!

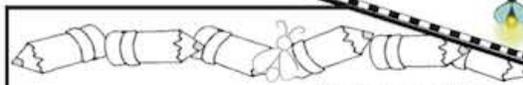




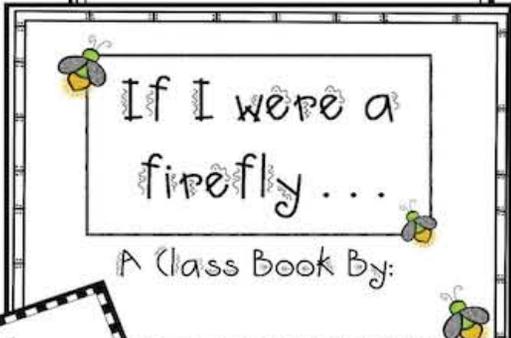
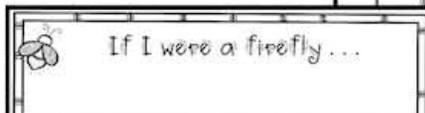
I have a bright idea!



Firefly Strepetic Poem



f  
i  
r  
e  
f  
l  
y



eggs



larva



pupa



adult



eggs



larva



pupa



adult



Life Cycle  
Of A  
Firefly  
Fun Facts

eggs



larva



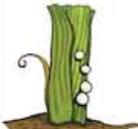
pupa



adult



eggs



larva



pupa



adult



A female firefly lays 100-500 eggs.

These can be singly, or in clusters.

She lays her eggs on the ground, just below the ground, on the base of a tree, on the underside of leaves, at the base of tall grass or other natural "debris" on the ground.

The eggs hatch in 9-4 weeks and are wormlike larvae.

This is the longest stage of the life cycle.

Larvae eat snails, slugs, and earth-worms.

They continue to grow, molting their exoskeleton and replacing it with a larger one.

The pupa is the inactive stage of a firefly.

It is during this stage that the firefly undergoes a complete transformation into an adult firefly.

This is called metamorphosis.

An adult firefly will emerge from the pupa stage in 10 days to several weeks.

Their lifespan is only 28-30 weeks!

Their main purpose is to find a mate.

They do this by flashing their light.



You light up my life with your love!



You light up my life with your love!









Tiny Tweets From:  
dollardoodles.com

If you liked this resource,  
you may also like these other activities as well.

*Diane*

### Look Who's Leaping! Beginning & End of the Year Frog-Themed Activities

*Diane Henderson*

### Beginning Or End Of The Year Backpack Writing Prompts

*Diane Henderson*

### "Taco 'bout" Fun! Writing Prompt Craftivity

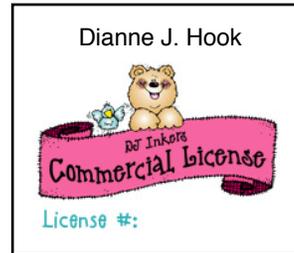
*Diane Henderson*

### Whale-Themed Beginning & End of the Year Writing Prompt Packet

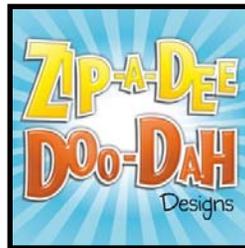
*Diane Henderson*

# Credits Credits Credits

Designing stuff for TpT, is extra fun because of the awesome clip art & fonts that I use from these talented artists.



LaurelingStudios





Thank you so much for buying this product.

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*Diane*



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