

# Ladder Stories

A Common Core State Standards Aligned Activity for

# 100 BUGS!

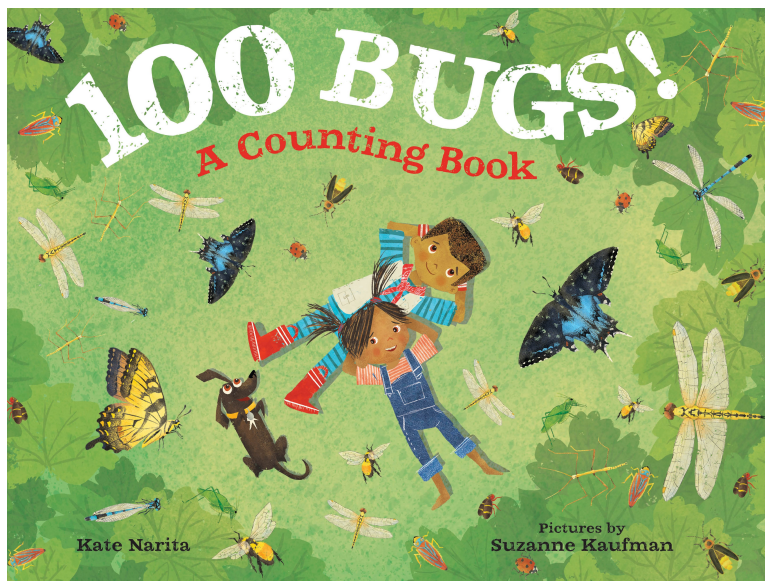
## A Counting Book

FARRAR STRAUS GIROUX  
New York

Written by Kate Narita

Illustrated by Suzanne Kaufman

ISBN: 978-0374306311



“Packed with great extension possibilities, visually engaging illustrations, and quick rhymes, this read-aloud would be a great addition to any

STEM shelf.” —Kirkus Review 

# Meet the Team

**Kate Palaces Narita** is the author of *100 Bugs! A Counting Book*. When she's not out and about driving, teaching fourth grade or cheering on her two teenage sons, Kate lives, writes, and hikes on a small mountain in central Massachusetts. There's a magical part of Mt. Wachusett in every one of her stories. Be it small wonders like darting dragonflies and gorgeous garden phlox, or large wonders like munching moose and beautiful balsam firs, she celebrates nature's bounty each and every day. Visit her at [www.katenarita.com](http://www.katenarita.com).



**Suzanne Kaufman** is an author, illustrator, animator and lover of school potlucks. She is the author-illustrator of *Confiscated* and *I Love Monkey*. Her previously illustrated work includes books: *All Are Welcome*, *100 Bugs*, *Naughty Claudine Christmas*, and *Samanthasaurus Rex*. Over the years, she's done everything from animating special effects for Universal Television and Discovery Channel, to animating award-winning video games for children. When not tramping through the wilds of the Pacific Northwest, you will find her teaching animation or working in her studio. She lives in Seattle with her husband and two creative daughters of her own. Visit her at [www.suzannekaufman.com](http://www.suzannekaufman.com).



**Lisandra Flynn** is an editor turned elementary school teacher who works with Kate. She has a flair for design and enjoys creating learning resources for her students and fellow teachers. When she's not teaching or tediously reorganizing her classroom, Lisandra enjoys hiking, crafting, and decorating her home in central Massachusetts, which she shares with her husband, baby boy, and two feisty cats.



# Ladder Stories

Kate Narita and Suzanne Kaufman use a ladder or mirror structure in their book. That means that the second half of the story repeats what happens in the first half of the story. So *100 Bugs!* starts off with sun rising, the kids getting out of bed and then they find these combinations of bugs: 1 and 9, 2 and 8, 3 and 7, 4 and 6. At noon, they find the five and five combination. Then, what happens? The text climbs back down the ladder. The kids find these combinations of bugs: 6 and 4, 7 and 3, 8 and 2, 9 and 1. Next, there's the final combination of 10 and 1, followed by the kids in bed, and the moon rising. Other examples of picture books with a ladder or mirror structure are: *Madame Martine* by Sarah Brannen, *The Rain Came Down* by David Shannon, *Boy + Bot* by Ame Dyckman, *A Sick Day for Amos McGee* by Philip Stead and *Old Bear and His Cub* by Olivier Dunrea. Have students write their own stories using a ladder or mirror structure.



# Ladder Story Planner

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

## Climb Up the Ladder

First Event: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Second Event: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Third Event: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Fourth Event: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Climb Down the Ladder

Fourth Event: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Third Event: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Second Event: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

First Event: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Ladder Story Planner

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

## Climb Up the Ladder

First Event: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Second Event: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Third Event: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Fourth Event: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Climb Up the Ladder Again

First Event: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Second Event: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Third Event: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Fourth Event: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_





# Ladder Story Cheat Sheet

## ***Madame Martine* by Sarah Brannen**

I use this text when introducing ladder structure in picture books because the main character climbs The Eiffel Tower. So, the students get a visual for climbing a structure. Then, I point out that she will once again climb more metaphorical structures by trying something new each Saturday. Ladder structures can have the characters doing the same actions more than once or they can show the characters climbing up the ladder and then coming back down.

## ***Boy + Bot* by Ame Dyckman**

**Illustrated by Dan Yaccarino**

1. Boy asks Bot to play.
2. Bot turns off.
3. Boy takes Bot home.
4. Boy cares for Bot.
5. Boy sleeps.
5. Bot turns on.
4. Bot takes Boy home.
3. Bot cares for Boy.
2. Boy wakes up.
1. Bot asks Boy to play

## ***A Sick Day for Amos McGee***

**By Philip and Erin Stead**

1. Amos wakes up.
  2. Amos takes bus to see friends.
  3. Plays chess with Elephant.
  4. Races Tortoise.
  5. Sits with Penguin.
  6. Gives hanky to Rhino.
  7. Reads to Owl.
  8. Amos stays home sick in bed.
1. Animals wake up.
  2. Animals take bus to see Amos.
  3. Elephant plays chess with Amos.
  4. Hide and seek with Tortoise.
  5. Penguin sits with Amos.
  6. Rhino gives hanky.
  7. Owl reads to Amos
  8. Amos and animals in bed.



# Ladder Story Cheat Sheet

## *The Rain Came Down* by David Shannon

1. Chaos at home.
2. Policeman stops to investigate ruckus.
3. Woman stuck in taxi that honks
4. Truck driver honked.
5. Ice-cream man turns up music
6. Parlor owner bumps barber.
7. Painter grumbles and baker argues
8. Boy runs by and girl cries.
9. Grocery man runs into lady.
10. Ladies boxes knock grocer's fruit over.
11. The rain stops and sun comes out.
10. Baker, pizza man, go inside.
9. Painter and barber go inside.
8. Policeman drives away.
7. Taxi woman gets hair done
6. Box lady uses taxi.
5. Truck driver delivers groceries
4. Ice-cream man gives boy and girl free ice-cream.
3. Peace at home.

## *100 Bugs! A Counting Book* by Kate Narita

Illustrated by Suzanne Kaufman

1. Kids wake up in bed.
2. Kids find bugs 1 + 9
3. Kids find bugs 2 + 8
4. Kids find bugs 3 + 7
5. Kids find bugs 4 + 6
6. Kids find bugs 5 + 5
5. Kids find bugs 6 + 4
4. Kids find bugs 7 + 3
3. Kids find bugs 8 + 2
2. Kids find bugs 9 + 1
1. Kids find bugs 10 + 0
0. Kids sleep in bed.

# Ladder Stories Common Core Alignment

## Writing: Text Types and Purposes

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.K.3: Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to narrate a single event or several loosely linked events, tell about the events in the order in which they occurred, and provide a reaction to what happened.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.1.3: Write narratives in which they recount two or more appropriately sequenced events, include some details regarding what happened, use temporal words to signal event order, and provide some sense of closure.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.3: Write narratives in which they recount a well-elaborated event or short sequence of events, include details to describe actions, thoughts, and feelings, use temporal words to signal event order, and provide a sense of closure.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effects technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.3.A: Establish a situation and introduce a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.3.C: Use temporal words and phrases to signal event order.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.3.D: Provide a sense of closure.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective techniques, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.3.A: Orient the reader by establishing a situation and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally.

# Ladder Stories Common Core Alignment

## Writing: Text Types and Purposes (continued)

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.3.C: Use a variety of transitional words and phrases to manage the sequence of events.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.3.D: Use concrete words and phrases and sensory details to convey experiences and events precisely.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.3.E: Provide a conclusion that follows from the narrated experiences or events.