

# Theme: Caterpillars

## Week 2

This document contains all of the activities for the theme “for the age group “Littles.”

Have fun!

Questions or comments? Please email us at

[playconnecttoday@gmail.com!](mailto:playconnecttoday@gmail.com)

All activities require adult supervision!

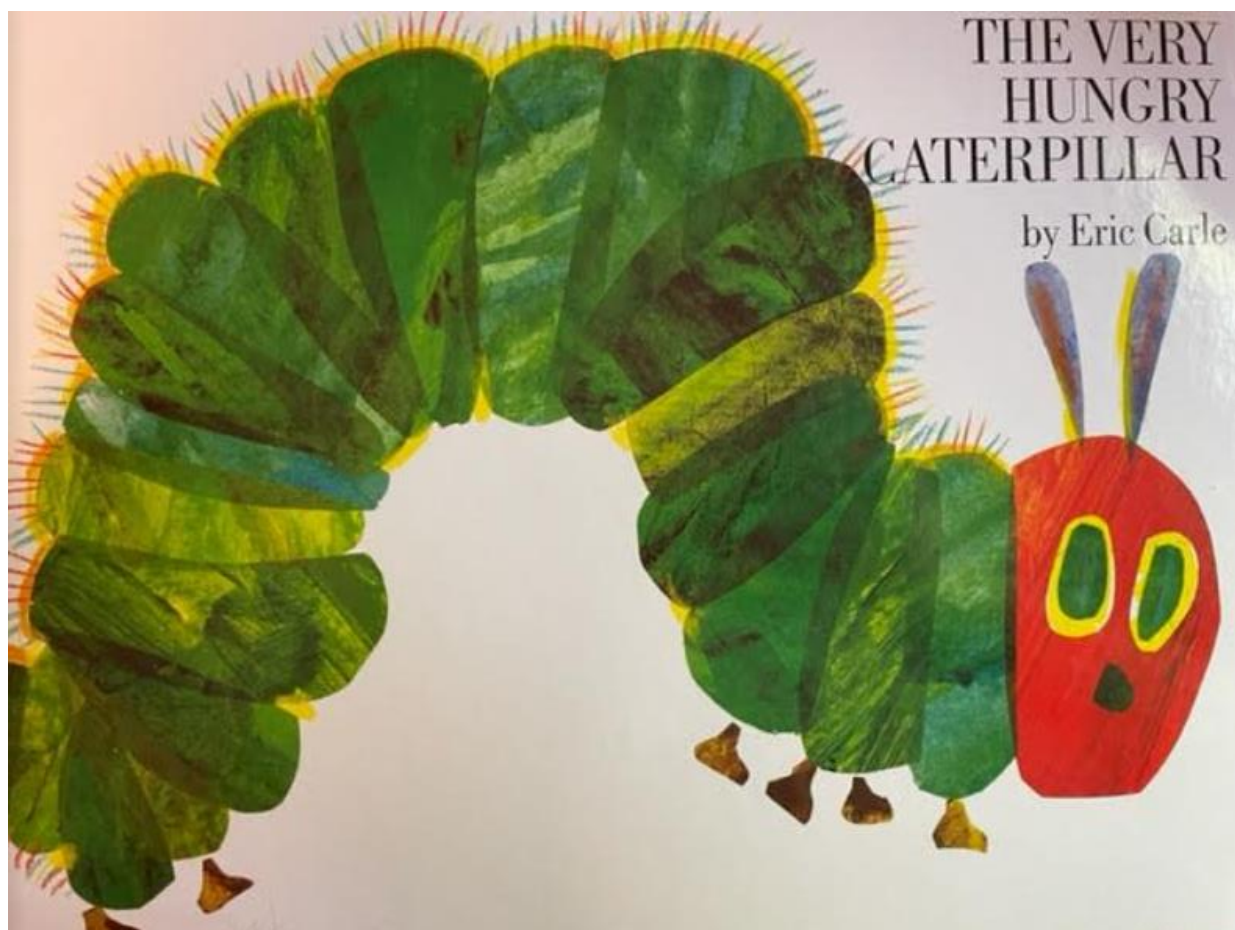
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# Book Suggestion

(We highly recommend checking your local library for this book, however if you cannot find it-please see link on our “Theme extras” web page to purchase if desired or find another book that showcases caterpillars)! -We suggest using the same book for two weeks as this really helps children gain reading comprehension of the book!



# Song Suggestion

## **The very Hungry Song**

Written by: unknown

Today is Monday, Today is Monday  
Monday one apple  
Hungry caterpillar, come and eat it up



Today is Tuesday, Today is Tuesday  
Tuesday two pears  
Hungry caterpillar, come and eat it up



Today is Wednesday, Today is Wednesday  
Wednesday three plums  
Hungry caterpillar, come and eat it up!



Today is Thursday, Today is Thursday  
Thursday four strawberries  
Hungry caterpillar, come and eat it up!



Today is Friday, Today is Friday  
Friday five oranges  
Hungry caterpillar, come and eat it up!



Today is Saturday, Today is Saturday  
Saturday too much food  
Hungry caterpillar, come and eat it up!

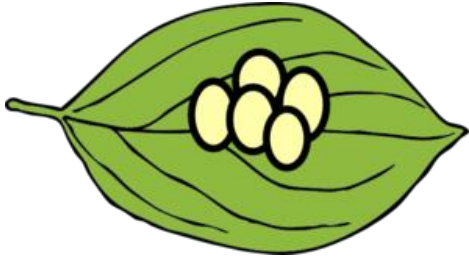


Today is Sunday, Today is Sunday  
Sunday one green leaf  
Hungry caterpillar, come and eat it up!



## Simple Vocabulary Words

These are optional vocabulary cards to show your child before reading the story to help with understanding. It is also a great idea to point out the words while reading the book!



**EGGS**



**CATERPILLAR**



**COCOON  
CHRYSALIS**



**BUTTERFLY**

# Art Project: Butterfly

## What you need for this activity:

- \*Popsicle stick
- \*Pom Poms
- \*Googly eyes
- \*Tissue Paper-various colors
- \*Non-toxic glue

## Directions:

\* Make the butterfly. To do this, have your child glue pom poms onto the popsicle sticks, placing googly eyes onto one of the pom poms. (Wait for it to dry before moving on).

Then pinch the tissue paper (to create two side) and glue on the tissue paper to form the butterfly's "wings."



# Fine Motor Activity:

## Balloon Squeeze

### What you need for this activity:

- \*Balloon
- \*Rice or sand
- \*Permanent marker (for adult use only)

### Directions:

\*An important aspect of fine motor development in young children is the strengthening of their fine motor muscles. Having this strength helps them to be able to use proper pressure when using writing utensils. One way to do this is by squeezing things.

For this activity, your child(ren) will create a balloon squeeze ball!

\*Have your child help you fill the balloon with rice or sand. You can create a simple cone with a piece of paper in order to more easily get the sand or rice in. (Directions below)

\*Once it is filled to your desired amount, tie the open end of the balloon tight!

\*\*Adult can draw a caterpillar's face on the balloon.

\*\*Make sure you supervise your child(ren) when they are using their squeeze ball as children in this age group often like to place things in their mouths and this definitely should not be done.



# Math Activity:

## Shape guesses

### What you need for this activity:

- \*Some sort of shapes that can be “touched” (some options in directions)
- \*Paper bag or any bag that a child can’t see through
- \*Caterpillar game

### Directions:

This activity allows your child(ren) to work on tactile shape recognition!

To start-choose items that will go into your bag as shapes-note you need quite a few-we recommend at least two of each:

Circle, square, rectangle, triangle, diamond, oval

Note: If your child has not learned about any of the above shapes yet, simply replace them with extras of the shapes they do know.

Some options for tactile shapes

- \*Paper- Just cut different sized shapes out of paper
- \*Popsicle sticks-form shapes out of these (can be another activity with your child)



\*Items from around the house (think bottle caps as circles, a small tissue box as rectangle or square etc.). Again, this could be another activity to do with your child.

\*\*Then: Use a game piece from any game and have your child(ren) put the piece on start.

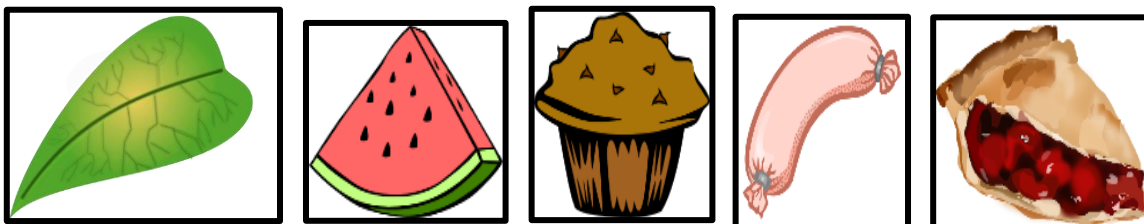
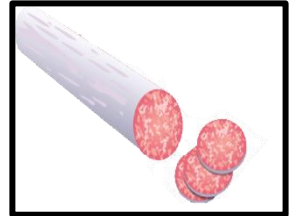
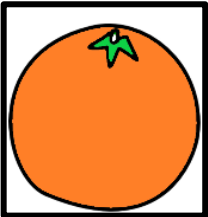
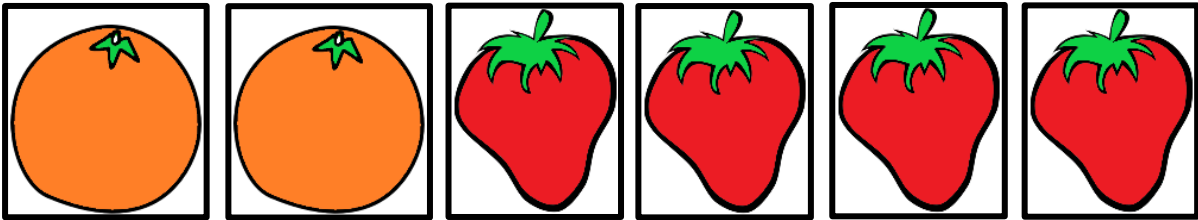
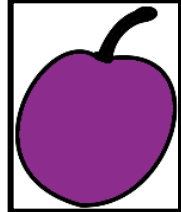
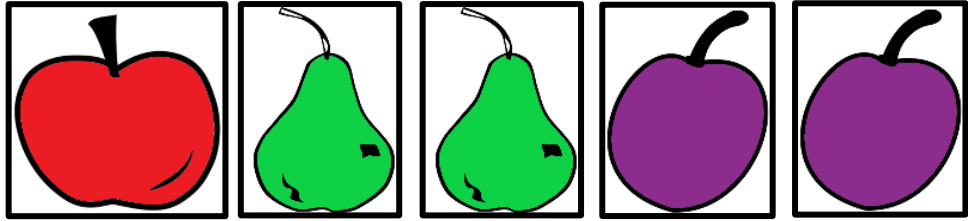
\*\*Roll the dice to see who goes first (highest number)

\*\*Whoever starts closes their eyes (KEEP THEM CLOSED) and chooses a shape from the bag-they must then with only touching it guess what shape it is. If they guess correctly, they may roll the dice and move forward that many spaces.

\*\*The game continues with each player going.

\*\*Whoever makes it to the butterfly first wins!

# Caterpillar to its cocoon!



# Language Activity:

## Reading with understanding

What you need for this activity:

**\*Option one:** fake fruits the caterpillar ate:

1 Apple, 2 Pears, 3 Plums, 4 Strawberries and 5 oranges

**\*Option two:** Cut out images of the fruits (printable below)

\*A “caterpillar”-could be the balloon from the fine motor activity, a pipe cleaner, green yarn etc.

\* “Very Hungry Caterpillar” book

\*\*Optional-the “junk foods” as-well-as the green leaf

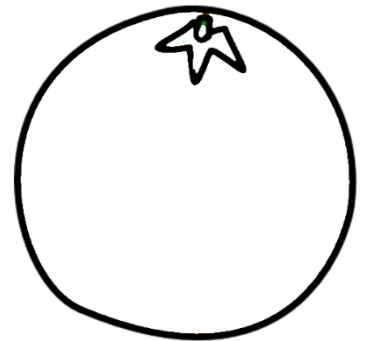
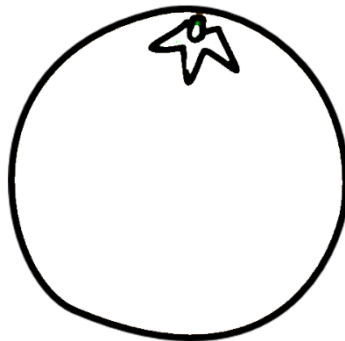
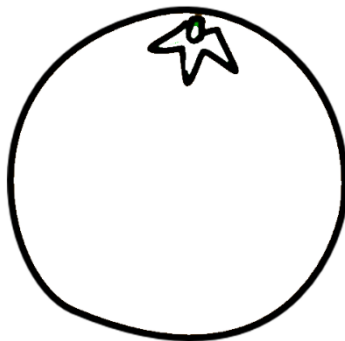
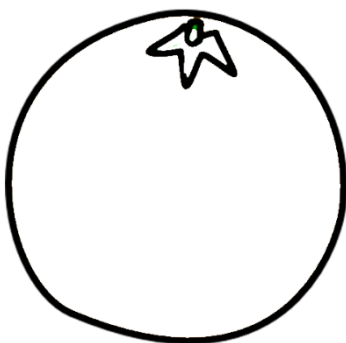
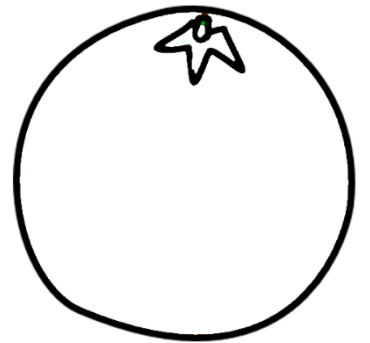
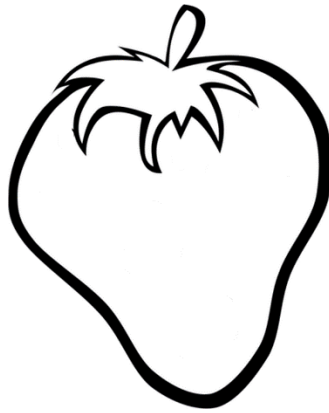
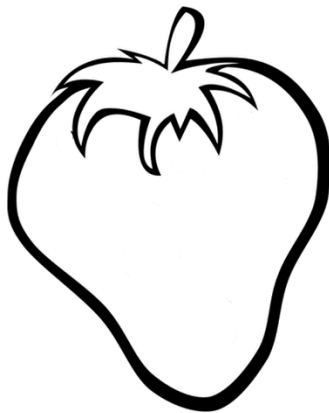
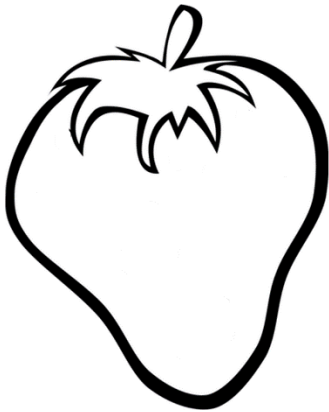
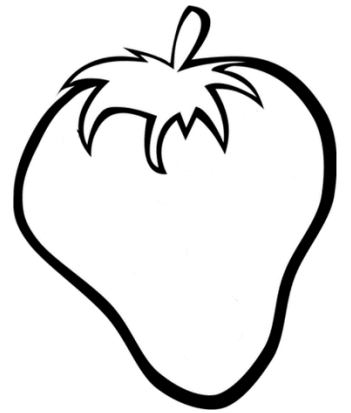
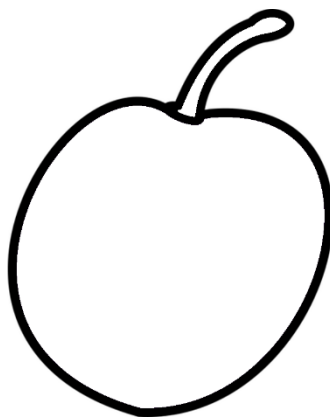
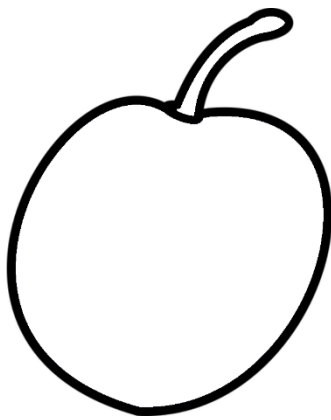
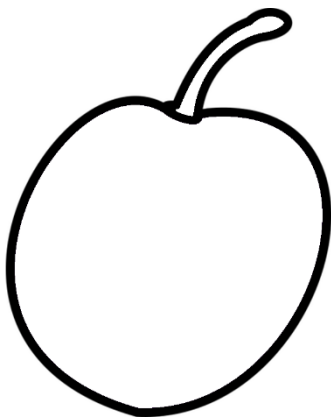
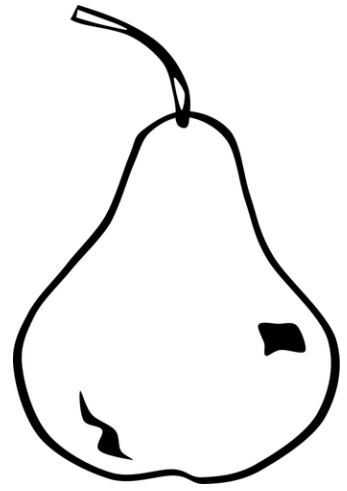
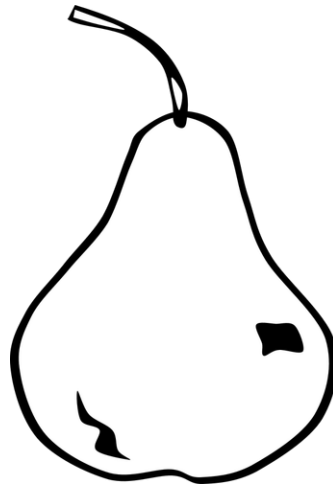
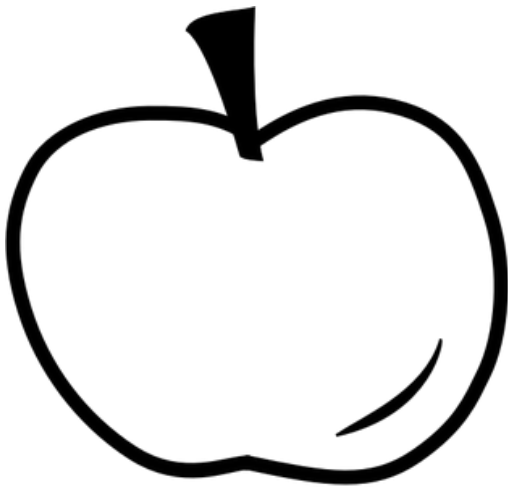
Directions:

A great way to build understanding and increase comprehension while reading a book is to have children engage with the story while reading it!

\*For this activity, first make sure you have all of your foods. Then set them in front of your child(ren). If you have more than one child participating divvy the fruits up (make sure each child knows what they are holding). Have one child start by holding the caterpillar.

Then read through the book and have the children “act it out” while reading. (For example, have the caterpillar “eat” the apple).

Depending on your child(ren)’s ability they can say the words from the book as well when it is their turn. This will also help them work on waiting their turn to speak!



# Science Activity:

## Caterpillar Life Cycle Search

### What you need for this activity:

- \*Group of children
- \*The great outdoors
- \*Some creativity!
- \*Caterpillar scavenger hunt page

### Optional:

- \*Life cycle of a caterpillar work page
- \*Child-safe scissors
- \*Non-toxic glue

### Directions:

\*If you are using the life cycle page, have your children cut and paste the stages in the correct order. If they are unsure, flip through the book with them to see what order the caterpillar's life goes in!

\*Then go on your caterpillar scavenger hunt! Ideas for this are listed below, however feel free to add in anything you can think of! Let your children be creative (if they are really struggling though, some ideas for caterpillar-like things are listed in the scavenger hunt as well).

# Caterpillar Scavenger Hunt

Check off the boxes as you find items!

Bonus: Take pictures of the items you find!

<b>Item</b>	<b>I found it!</b>
An egg or something that looks like one  Example: a small pebble	
A caterpillar or something that looks like one  Example: a small, bumpy stick	
A nice green leaf	
A cocoon or something that looks like one  Example: a pinecone	
A butterfly or something that looks like one  Example: Flowers	