

The Very Hungry Caterpillar Story Can

"He built a small house, called a cocoon, around himself. He stayed inside for more than two weeks. Then he nibbled a hole in the cocoon, pushed his way out and... he was a beautiful butterfly."

*-Eric Carle
The Very Hungry Caterpillar*

New Jersey Preschool Teaching and Learning Standards:

English Language Arts: Reading Literature:

Key Ideas and Details: With prompting and support, ask and answer key elements in a familiar story or poem.

New Jersey Student Learning Standards: Kindergarten

English Language Arts: Reading Literature Text

Key Ideas and Details: With prompting and support, identify characters, settings, and major events in a story.

Objective:

Students will be able to identify key ideas and story elements using the props and the book.

For today's activity, you will need:

- Oatmeal container or something similar such as a coffee can, or bread crumb container
- Green duct tape or green construction paper
- X-acto knife or scissors to cut out mouth in container lid
- Various colors of construction paper
- Glue stick or hot glue gun
- Laminator or clear contact paper (*optional*)
- Pictures of foods - use attached PDF or die-cuts listed below (numbers reflect LRC-South catalog number)

Butterflies: #68, 69

Cupcake: #195

Apple: #150

Orange: #149 (use purple paper for plums)*

Leaves: # 229-233

Strawberry: #147

Pear: #151

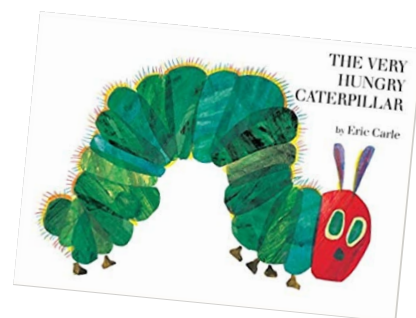
Ice Cream Cone: #244

Cheese: #420 (hole punch to make Swiss cheese)*

Cake: #94

***Note:** For some additional foods that the caterpillar eats, be creative with the die-cuts. Create a lollipop with a circle or use a hot dog for sausage. Use triangles for slices of watermelon, pie, or chocolate cake.

Please refer to the die-cut book in the LRC-S production area or on our [Researcher](#) to find additional die-cuts that can be used.



Steps for *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* Story Can:

1. Cover the oatmeal container with green duct tape or green construction paper.
2. Use the X-acto knife or scissors to cut a mouth in the lid of the container.
3. Use the various colored construction paper to make eyes and antennas for the caterpillar.
4. Glue the eyes to the lid, just above the mouth and add the antennas to the top of the container.
5. Cut out the various foods that the caterpillar ate using the die cuts or attached PDF.
6. Laminate or cover all your story pieces with clear contact paper for durability (*optional*).
7. As you tell the story, have the students feed the caterpillar the matching foods.



Note: You may want to prepare multiples of some foods - pears (2), plums (3), strawberries (4), and oranges (5) – so you can practice counting as you feed the caterpillar.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar - Extension Activities:

New Jersey Preschool Teaching and Learning Standards:
Science 5.3: Children observe and investigate living things.

New Jersey Student Learning Standards:
Science: Basic Needs of Living Things

Objective:

Students will be able to identify the sequence of a butterfly's life cycle.

Steps for Life Cycle extension activity:

1. Measure two (2) 5" x 18" strips of construction paper.
2. Trace and cut out a large butterfly using the PDF attached, decorate your butterfly if desired.
3. Download, print, and cut out stages of the butterfly from the attached PDF.
4. Glue the large butterfly cutout to the top of paper strip.
5. Glue the butterfly lifecycle photos below butterfly in order from 1-4 – you may need to add a second construction paper strip for length.
6. Laminate or cover with clear contact paper (*optional*).



Make Your Own Butterfly Food!

Mix a solution of 10 parts water to 1 part granulated sugar.
Boil the mixture on the stove until the sugar dissolves. Let it cool completely.

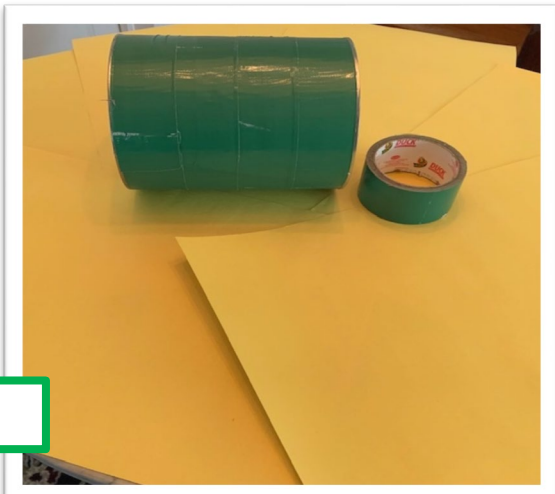
Use a terra cotta plant saucer and suspend the plate with a plant hanger.
Hang the feeder from a tree branch and add the butterfly food.

Watch for the butterflies!

A picture is worth a thousand words as we
Learn and Create with the LRC-South!



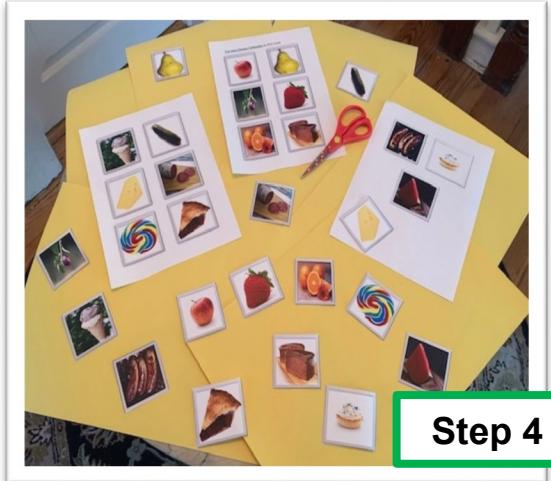
Step 1



Step 2



Step 3



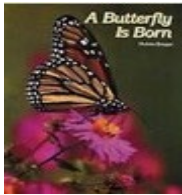
Step 4



Step 5

LRC-South related items to borrow that align with this Learn and Create activity:

A Butterfly Is Born (Informational Text)



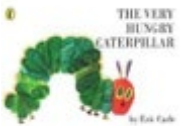
Follows the life cycle of a butterfly from egg through larva and pupa stages to adulthood. (LRC-S # 28764)

From Caterpillar to Butterfly



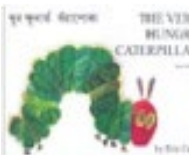
A classic big book, cute storytelling props and engaging activities—everything you need for lively literature-based learning! Our ready-to-use kit features a big book version of From Caterpillar to Butterfly, plus caterpillar and butterfly puppets to retell the story. Includes 10 activity cards that extend the fun of the book, plus a guide filled with cross-curricular activity ideas. (LRC-S # 45243)

The Very Hungry Caterpillar: A Curriculum Unit Based on the Story Book



Read It Once Again preschool curriculums use the story itself as the theme of the unit to promote early literacy. They furnish the teacher with objectives, activities, and assessments necessary to provide children with language delays, developmental delays, or autism an educational program that will meet their basic needs in each of the five domains commonly addressed in the preschool classroom. (LRC-S #41350)

The Very Hungry Caterpillar in Bengali and English



A very small and hungry caterpillar grows from a small egg to a beautiful butterfly while discovering foods and numbers. (LRC-S # 40416)

Monarch Butterfly by Gail Gibbons



Describes the life cycle, body parts, and behavior of the monarch butterfly. Includes instructions on how to raise a monarch. (LRC-S # 44196)

Monarch Butterfly Life Cycle Puppet



Three stages - one puppet! This Monarch Life Cycle Hand Puppet changes from caterpillar to chrysalis to an adult monarch butterfly. Utilize the zippers to tuck and reveal one stage to the next and witness the life cycle of a butterfly unfold right before your eyes! Once metamorphosis is complete, insert your hands into the wings of the adult monarch to flap its wings to simulate flight. Encourages pretend play and storytelling. (LRC-S # 44943)