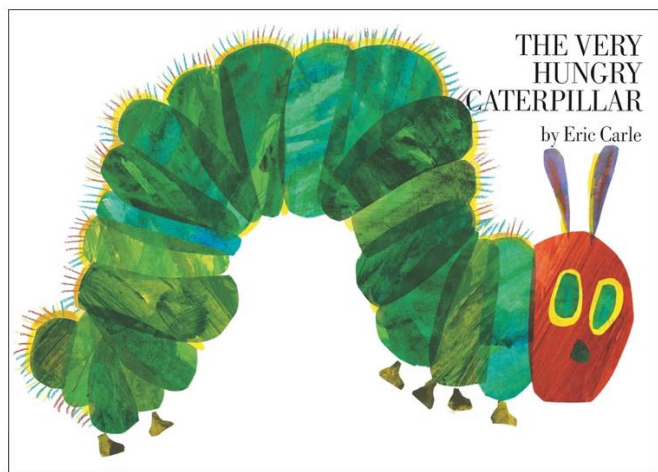




The Very Hungry Caterpillar Shared Reading Guide

Please refer to the Every Child, Every Story: A Shared Reading Guide for more information about how to use this guide

Name of Book: The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle (illustrator and author).

Key Concepts: The Very Hungry Caterpillar is about the life cycle of a caterpillar as he eats his way through each day and ultimately becomes a butterfly. It introduces early concepts of counting, days of the week, healthy eating, resilience and patience, and the natural cycle of life.

Book Specific Target Vocabulary

- Characters/Nature: caterpillar, butterfly, egg, leaf, sun, moon
- Life Cycle & Sizes: tiny, little, big, fat, cocoon
- Actions: ate, nibbled, hungry, laid (egg), stomachache, sick, recover
- Foods: apple, pear, plum, strawberry, orange, chocolate cake, ice cream, pickle, swiss cheese, salami, lollipop, cherry pie, sausage, watermelon
- Days of the Week: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Shared Reading Access Strategies

Language and Literacy

Support/Activity Ideas: I can...

- show the YouTube video [The Very Hungry Caterpillar](#) which is closed captioned and includes music and animation.

- record “chomping” sounds for use during the book reading using [Novel Effect](#) or [Noisy Book](#), or use a sequential messaging device such as the [Step-by-Step](#) from the OCALI Lending Library to create the sounds.
- ask children to participate by saying the repeating lines in the story together (e.g., ... But he was still hungry...). Children with limited speech can use a single-message device, such as the [Big Mack](#) from the OCALI Lending Library, to say the repeating line.
- ask children to say together the days of the week. Children with limited speech can use a sequential messaging device such as the [Step-by-Step](#) from the OCALI Lending Library to say the colors.
- provide popsicle stick [story props](#) or fruit manipulatives for the children to use during the story.
- give each child a [picture to match](#) to a corresponding page in the book.
- have the children sequence picture cards or manipulatives to retell the story using the:
 - free printable [Very Hungry Caterpillar Sequencing Activity](#) from TpT (requires login)
 - Lakeshore Story Telling Kit: [The Very Hungry Caterpillar](#)
- check out the [Butterfly Life Cycle Books and Accessories Kit](#) from the OCALI Lending Library containing two story books, vocabulary word cards, a PECS board with sentence building/communicating strip, a caterpillar model, and all the foods he samples, and the model can become a butterfly.
- ask children questions about The Very Hungry Caterpillar before reading the story to encourage predictive thinking skills, throughout, and at the end of the story to check understanding. For children with limited speech, use a communication board or a voice output device such as the [Quick Talker Feather Touch 12](#) or [Quick Talker Feather Touch 23](#). (from the OCALI Lending Library) or create communication boards with a paid subscription to [LessonPix](#) or [Boardmaker](#).
- NOTE: For more information on how to set up and use communication devices (e.g., Big Mack, Step-by-Step, Quick Talker), consult the Little and Big [Spark Guides](#).

Engagement and Attending

Support/Activities: I can...

- provide a choice of shared reading listening positions (sitting, lying down, etc.).
- use a hula hoop, carpet squares, colored mats, painters' tape, etc., to define the visual boundaries

- provide options for movement while listening to the story using a child's rocking chair or borrowing a [wobble cushion](#) from the OCALI Lending Library.
- provide fidgets for use during story reading time from classroom items or borrow [fidgets](#) from the OCALI Lending Library.
- show the YouTube video [The Very Hungry Caterpillar](#) which includes music and animation.

Behavior

Support/Activities: I can...

- provide clear information about what is expected using activity schedules and social narratives/social stories.
 - OCALI Lending Library - [The New Social Story Book by Carol Gray](#)
 - OCALI Autism Center Grab and Go - [What to Do Cards](#)
 - OCALI Autism Center Grab and Go - [First Then Cards](#)
- provide options for movement while listening to the story, using a child's rocking chair or borrowing a [wobble cushion](#) from the OCALI Lending Library.
- provide fidgets for use during story reading time from classroom items or borrow [fidgets](#) from the OCALI Lending Library.
- provide noise-reducing headphones available for loan from the OCALI Lending Library - [Sensory Regulation Kit Preschool/Early Elementary](#).
- use picture supports for Too Loud or [voice volume scale](#). Free download.
- allow the child to sit in a sensory calming area, provide a cozy corner for observation away from the group, or provide one-on-one reading of the book.
- ensure children with communication challenges have the needed communication supports to participate in the shared reading experience - see Communication and Literacy section above.

Fine and Gross Motor Skills

Support/Activities: I can...

- provide adapted seating: classroom available adapted seating options might consist of propping with rolled towels, pool noodles, or a bean bag chair.
- provide page spacers/fluffers: Add Velcro dots, foam stickers, adhesive felt tabs, or extenders such as laminated cardstock strips taped to pages, paper clips between pages to aid in separating pages for turning.
- adapt book pages: provide board book versions of the story or laminate pages with thick laminate. Additionally, consider cutting the spine from the book, hole punch the pages, and put into a three-ring binder or a comb binder so the pages can lie flat for ease of page turning.
- stabilize the book: Apply Velcro to the back of the book and fasten it on a cookie sheet or slant board to stabilize the book for one-handed use.
- provide a digital accessible format of the book that is keyboard and switch accessible using the Monarch Reader: [The Very Hungry Caterpillar](#) or [The Very Hungry Caterpillar Adapted PowerPoint](#) from the Paul V. Sherlock Center
- provide an audio version recorded to a [Step-by-Step](#) communication device with each page of the book recorded per switch activation.
- build up or stabilize manipulatives: Attach shower curtain rings to manipulatives to make them easier to grasp and explore
- provide book-theme-related switch toys that can be used to encourage active participation for those children who are unable to successfully hold and use story manipulatives.
 - The [Pre-Academic Learning Switch Kit - EC COE](#) from the OCALI Lending Library contains a nursery rhyme caterpillar.
 - The [Multisensory Switch Toy Kit 2 - EC COE](#) from the OCALI Lending Library contains a music and light Caterpillar.
- NOTE: For more information on how to set up switch-activated toys, consult the Little and Big [Spark Guides](#).

Low Vision or Blind

Support/Activities: I can...

- use [The Very Hungry Caterpillar Giant Board Book](#) version of the book.
- change the orientation of the book using a [slant board](#).
- offer a Twin vision (with added braille) version of [The Very Hungry Caterpillar](#) or a large print book, either digital (used on a large screen mobile device) or paper copies.
- provide 3-D manipulatives such as the ones contained in [The Very Hungry Caterpillar 3-D Storybook](#) available from the OCALI Lending Library.
- use a [Sensory Story](#) format to tell the story.
- project the book [Brown Bear](#) to make it larger for group or individual viewing using a document camera, overhead projector, or slide show (Google Slides or PowerPoint).
- provide large, high-contrast manipulatives used on a [Light Box](#).
- provide high-contrast formats of The Very Hungry Caterpillar.
 - CVI Video 1 - [The Very Hungry Caterpillar](#) - CVI Friendly
 - [CVI High Contrast PPT](#)
- give verbal descriptions of the book pages if the book text does not describe the illustrations adequately.

Listening, Deaf, or Hard of Hearing

Support/Activities: I can...

- position the child so they can see the reader's lips. Use [big books](#) and large-print books for group reading to facilitate better visual monitoring of the text and pictures.
- provide supporting pictures and vocabulary on cards or felt boards.
- use closed captions if you are using video versions of books.
- pace reading speed and articulate well.
- during reading, periodically summarize key concepts and vocabulary used in the book. Repeat the questions posed by the other children.

- use simple [ASL Sign Language for keywords](#) (bear, bird, see, colors, etc.).
- provide ASL video-narrated books: [The Very Hungry Caterpillar](#).

Other Books

- The Grouchy Lady Bug by Eric Carle
- The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister
- The Very Busy Spider by Eric Carle
- The Best Lowly Worm Book by Richard Scarrey
- A Fly Went By by Mike McClintock
- The Very Quiet Cricket by Eric Carle

* Interested in developing a personalized Shared Reading Guide featuring a beloved story? Detailed directions are provided in the Every Child, Every Story: Shared Reading Planning Template. Reach out to the Early Childhood Center of Excellence (CoE) to request support from one of our Early Development and Learning Specialists (EDLS) using the [request form](#) located on the [Ohio PROMISE](#) website.