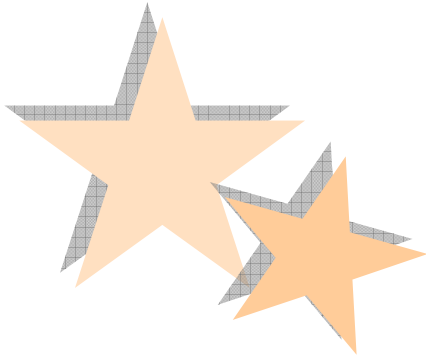


The Very Hungry Caterpillar Lesson Ideas

Grade Level: K-2



Summary: This book teaches the life cycle/stages of a butterfly, while sharing the adventures of a caterpillar over the course of a week.

Reading/Writing Connections:

1. Show the cover of the book to generate discussion. What colours do you see? What do you think the story is about?
2. After reading the story, talk about what happened inside the cocoon. Also, talk with the students about their knowledge of butterflies.
3. After completing the book, distribute pompoms for children to glue onto a popsicle stick. They can then add wiggle eyes and pipe cleaner antennae. Ask children to retell the story to parents and friends.

Vocabulary/Spelling:

butterfly	cocoon	five	four	Monday	Saturday
Sunday	three	Thursday	Tuesday	two	Wednesday

Library Connections:

1. Share other titles by the author: *The Grouchy Ladybug*; *Rooster's Off to See the World*; *A House For Hermit Crab*
2. Other books on caterpillars and butterflies: *Charlie the Caterpillar* by Dom Deluise; *From Egg to Butterfly* by Marlene Reidel ; *Backyard Insects* by Millicent Selsam

English/Language Arts Connections:

1. After discussing why the butterfly got a stomach-ache, have children brainstorm foods that would give them stomach-aches. Give each child a piece of paper with the same sentence at the top:

<Child's Name> ate _____, _____, and _____.

At the bottom of the page write:

"That night <Child's Name> had a stomach-ache!" Have each child draw three food items on the paper and write the words using inventive spelling. Put the pages together to make the book, "Stomach-ache Stories."

2. Have several student volunteers create a cover and a title page for a class book. Give each child a piece of white construction paper with the same sentence at the bottom, "My hungry caterpillar _____."
3. After brainstorming action words that could describe all the little things caterpillars do, have each child select one word to finish his/her sentence.

Art Connections:

1. Students could sponge paint or tear paper to make a bright caterpillar, adding yarn for antennae.
2. Using colourful construction paper or tissue paper, have students cut small pieces in many different shapes. Fill a small zip lock bag with the scraps. Put a pipe cleaner around the middle of the bag and curl ends for antennae.

Math Connections:

1. Addition and Subtraction problems: Ex. On Sunday the caterpillar ate one apple and on Tuesday he ate two pears. How many pieces of fruit did the caterpillar eat?
2. Estimation: Have the students estimate how many different kinds of foods the caterpillar will eat during the week. Record the amount. Read the story to find out the correct answer.
3. Build a graph to show how much the caterpillar ate each day.

Science Connections:

1. Read and discuss books describing the life cycle of the butterfly.
2. Students find and bring in leaves that have eggs or chrysalis. Place them in a jar and watch what happens.

Health Connections:

1. Distribute magazines to students and have them cut out foods that represent a healthy breakfast. Glue the pictures on a paper plate that says, "_____'s Breakfast."