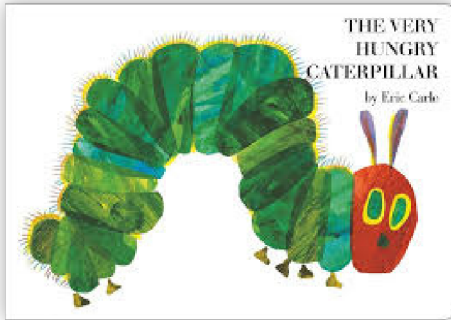




## The Very Hungry Caterpillar

**Author:** Eric Carle

**Illustrator:** Eric Carle

**Themes:** Days of the Week, Life Cycles, Transformation

**Book Brief:** Through simple text and vibrant collage illustrations, a hungry caterpillar eats his way through the days of the week before transforming into a beautiful butterfly.

## READ ALOUD

### Before Reading: Build Background

- Ask, "Have you ever eaten so much that your tummy hurt? What did you eat?"
- Look at the cover together. Ask your child where they think the caterpillar will do.

### While Reading: Make Connections

- As the caterpillar eats through each day, count the foods together. Ask, "What day is it now? How many did he eat?"
- On Saturday, the caterpillar eats a lot and gets a stomachache. Ask, "Why do you think his tummy hurts? What could help him feel better?"
- When the caterpillar builds a cocoon, stop and ask, "What do you think is happening inside? What might he turn into?"

### After Reading: Ask Questions

- Ask, "The caterpillar changed into a butterfly. Can you tell me the story in order, what happened first, next, and last?"

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### If your child enjoyed this book:

- Make a food list for the week together. Draw or write one food your child would eat on each day, just like the caterpillar. Count them up at the end.
- Read more books by Eric Carle.
  - Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? (1967)
  - From Head to Toe (1997)
  - Panda Bear, Panda Bear, What Do You See? (2003)