



The Very Hungry Caterpillar

What does the hungry caterpillar eat as he transforms from egg to caterpillar to lovely butterfly?

Math Connections: Use this book to introduce:

Counting	Days of the Week
Categorizing	Cause and Effect
Comparisons	Sequence of Events

Activities to Do Together: Ask your child to:

- Retell the story using sequencing words like “first” “second”, “then” and “last”.
- Categorize the foods that caterpillar ate.
- Tell how the caterpillar changes throughout the story and discuss those changes with you.

Vocabulary for Building Math Concepts:

big, five, four, Friday, little, Monday, more than, one, out, piece, Saturday, slice, small, Sunday, three, through, Thursday, tiny, Tuesday, two, Wednesday, week

Extension Questions:

1. For how many days does the caterpillar eat? How long was the caterpillar in the cocoon? Did the caterpillar spend more time eating or in its cocoon?
2. What are some words that the author uses to describe things that are small?
3. How many pieces of fruit did the caterpillar eat his way through between Monday and Friday?
4. How many pieces of food did the caterpillar eat his way through on Saturday? Which foods do you think gave the caterpillar a stomach ache?
5. What happens at the end of this story?

Early Math Project Resources:

[Very Hungry Caterpillar Counting and Classifying \(English and Spanish\)](#)

[Very Hungry Caterpillar Sensory Tub](#)

[Very Hungry Caterpillar Sensory Tub \(Spanish\)](#)

[Caterpillar Venn Diagram/Monarch](#)

[Caterpillar Venn Diagram/Monarch \(Spanish\)](#)

Online Resources:

[Read aloud by Eric Carle](#)

AUTHOR:

Eric Carle

This classic tale follows a caterpillar’s journey from egg to butterfly. Count the many foods caterpillar eats as he grows bigger and bigger.

Ages: 3 & up

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Copyright: 1969

Spanish Title: La oruga muy hambrienta

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Related Books:

Baby Goes to Market by Atinuke, *Eight Silly Monkeys* illustrated by Steve Haskamp, *Counting Crocodiles* by Judy Sierra and Will Hillenbrand.

