

Theme: Caterpillars

Week 2

This document contains all of the activities for the theme “for the age group “Big Kids.”

Have fun!

Questions or comments? Please email us at

[playconnecttoday@gmail.com!](mailto:playconnecttoday@gmail.com)

All activities require adult supervision!

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*Images used from: unspash.com

Book Suggestion

(We highly recommend checking your local library for this book, however if you cannot find it-please see link on our “Theme extras” web page to purchase if desired or find another book that showcases caterpillars)! -We suggest using the same book for two weeks as this really helps children gain reading comprehension of the book!



Song Suggestion

The very Hungry Song

Written by: unknown

Today is Monday, Today is Monday
Monday one apple
Hungry caterpillar, come and eat it up



Today is Tuesday, Today is Tuesday
Tuesday two pears
Hungry caterpillar, come and eat it up



Today is Wednesday, Today is Wednesday
Wednesday three plums
Hungry caterpillar, come and eat it up!



Today is Thursday, Today is Thursday
Thursday four strawberries
Hungry caterpillar, come and eat it up!



Today is Friday, Today is Friday
Friday five oranges
Hungry caterpillar, come and eat it up!



Today is Saturday, Today is Saturday
Saturday too much food
Hungry caterpillar, come and eat it up!

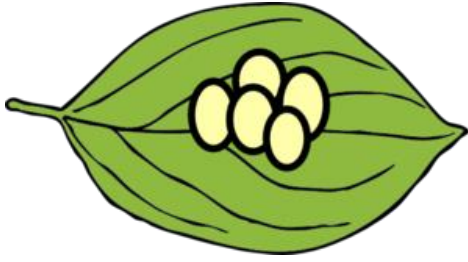


Today is Sunday, Today is Sunday
Sunday one green leaf
Hungry caterpillar, come and eat it up!



Simple Vocabulary Words

These are optional vocabulary cards to show your child before reading the story to help with understanding. It is also a great idea to point out the words while reading the book!



EGGS



CATERPILLAR



**COCOON
CHRYSALIS**



BUTTERFLY

Art Project: Butterfly

What you need for this activity:

- *Popsicle stick
- *Pom Poms
- *Googly eyes
- *Tissue Paper-various colors
- *Non-toxic glue

Directions:

* Make the butterfly. To do this, have your child glue pom poms onto the popsicle sticks, placing googly eyes onto one of the pom poms. (Wait for it to dry before moving on).

Then pinch the tissue paper (to create two side) and glue on the tissue paper to form the butterfly's "wings."



Fine Motor Activity:

Tracing

What you need for this activity:

*If possible, chosen (fake) food from the book-if not other chosen objects work too

*Chalk (if doing outdoors) or other writing utensil (if indoors)

Directions:

*For this activity, your child(ren) will work on their tracing abilities! There are a couple different ways to do this. For both options choose which food items from the book you will use. We recommend fake ones because you will probably get chalk or other writing utensil on them.

****Option one: outdoors-best done on a sunny day**

-Choose a spot outdoors with pavement so that you can use your chalk! Place one food object on the ground and look at its shadow. Then carefully trace the shadow of the object! Do this for all of the food items.

****Option two: indoors**

-For this option, you can either

Place your food item on a piece of paper and trace around the base of it.

OR

Place the food onto a piece of paper, turn off the lights and have someone hold a flashlight pointed at the object (in order to create a shadow) and have your child(ren) trace the shadow onto their paper.

Math Activity:

Caterpillar Directions

What you need for this activity:

- *Writing utensil
- *Optional-chalk
- *Caterpillar directions page

Directions:

Following and giving directions is great for the development of understanding a type of code!

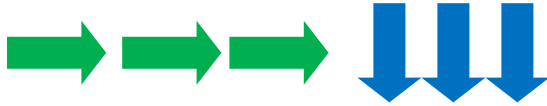
Below you will see three “levels” of challenges.



This is dependent on your child’s understanding, you may choose one to do with them or start at level one and see how they do.

Get the Caterpillar to his cocoon!

For this activity, there are three different levels of difficulty (you could do all three with your child beginning with level one if desired).

Level One: Look at the arrows and trace the line the Caterpillar moves in to get to his cocoon.





A 6x5 grid with a dashed line starting from the caterpillar in the top-left cell, moving right across the top row, then down through the third column to the cocoon in the fourth row.

Level Two: Draw arrows to show how the caterpillar get to the cocoon

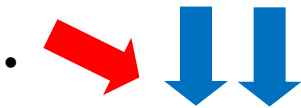
(Note: there are many correct answers-some shown on following page)

Possible answers for level two caterpillar challenge-some possibilities



OR if your child understands diagonal arrows:



Level three: Caterpillar movement game (Option one indoors)

Directions:

For this option, your children will work both on listening to and giving instructions- this is best done in groups of two. First give each child two copies each of the “game board” table (one sheet is their “how my caterpillar moves” page and the other “how my partner’s caterpillar moves.”

One their “how my caterpillar moves” page. Have each child (secretly) draw a caterpillar in one section. In another section, have them draw a cocoon. After this, have them make arrows to show which way their caterpillar moves to get to its’ cocoon.

Once both have completed their own page, one child (Caterpillar Master) begins giving instructions. The first instruction must be where to place the caterpillar. Following this, the Caterpillar Master tells the other child which way to go in the grid. The child makes a line to follow these directions.

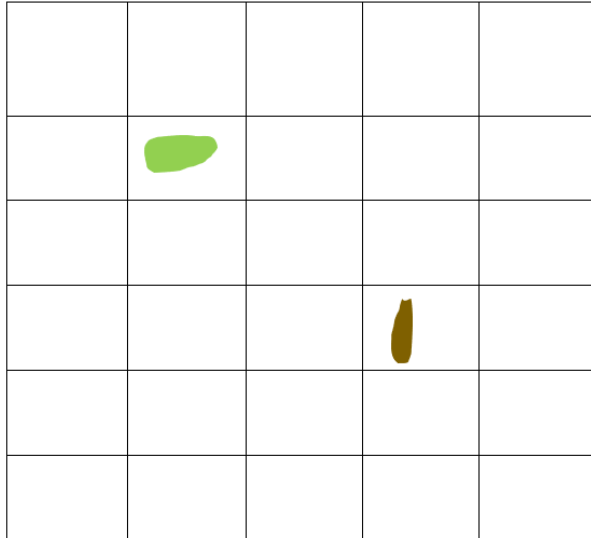
At the end, check and see how accurate they were!

Example below for clarity!

Example game:

Caterpillar Master's page

How my caterpillar moves



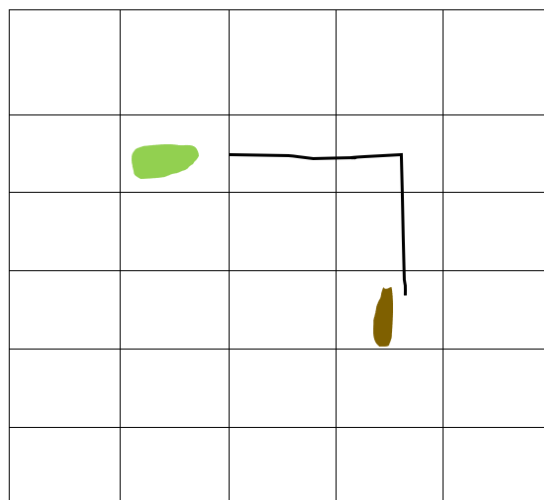
My directions:



The caterpillar master tells their partner where to place the caterpillar. Then gives the instructions on how to get to the cocoon.

Partner's page

How their caterpillar moves



The partner in this scenario properly followed the directions!

How my caterpillar moves

My directions:

How their caterpillar moves

Level three: Caterpillar Movement Game Option two (outdoors)

For this activity, you need pavement and chalk! This game must be played with at least three players.

To start, have your children make one giant grid using the chalk. Mark one part of the grid as “START” (this is where the caterpillar will begin).

Then, have them choose one item to represent the cocoon (for example a pinecone).

Choose who will be the “caterpillar” first. This person must now close their eyes and keep them closed! For this reason, make sure there is nothing they can trip over!!!

While the eyes are closed, one (or both) of the other children place the cocoon in a grid section.

Once the cocoon has been placed one child will act as a guide, giving directions on where the “caterpillar” must walk. While the other child walks next to the caterpillar to make sure they don’t go outside of the grid sections or get hurt!

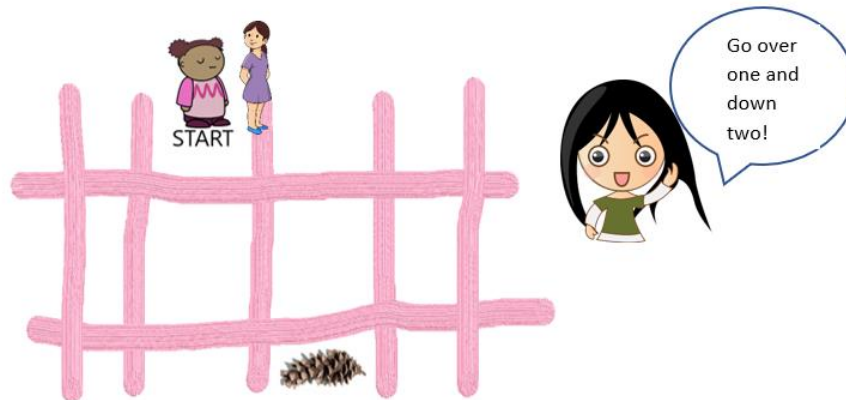
The child who gives directions tells the “caterpillar” where to go. Once the caterpillar has successfully reached its “cocoon,” another child takes their turn as the caterpillar.

Example below for clarity

Children draw a grid using chalk and write start, one child goes to start and closes their eyes. The other two place the pinecone.



One child acts as a guide while the other calls out directions.



The game is done when the child reaches the pine cone!

Language Activity:

Syllable Match

What you need for this activity:

- *Syllable Match
- *Colored pencils/crayons/markers

Directions:

Understanding the individual syllables that are in a word is an important step in beginning reading.

For this activity, your child will search for words that have the same beginning and ending syllables as the vocabulary words.

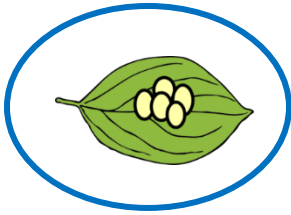
First ask your child to break up the words by their syllables

For example: “But ter fly.”

Then do the search page.

Syllable match

Look at the vocabulary words and circle the images in the box that have the same beginning or ending syllable. Circle in the colors you see around the words. One example is done for you!



Science Activity:

Caterpillar Life Cycle Search

What you need for this activity:

- *Group of children
- *The great outdoors
- *Some creativity!
- *Caterpillar scavenger hunt page

Optional:

- *Life cycle of a caterpillar work page
- *Child-safe scissors
- *Non-toxic glue

Directions:

*If you are using the life cycle page, have your children cut and paste the stages in the correct order. If they are unsure, flip through the book with them to see what order the caterpillar's life goes in!

*Then go on your caterpillar scavenger hunt! Ideas for this are listed below, however feel free to add in anything you can think of! Let your children be creative (if they are really struggling though, some ideas for caterpillar-like things are listed in the scavenger hunt as well).

Caterpillar Scavenger Hunt

Check off the boxes as you find items!

Bonus: Take pictures of the items you find!

Item	I found it!
An egg or something that looks like one Example: a small pebble	
A caterpillar or something that looks like one Example: a small, bumpy stick	
A nice green leaf	
A cocoon or something that looks like one Example: a pinecone	
A butterfly or something that looks like one Example: Flowers	