



The Very Hungry Vocabulary Caterpillar

Munch, munch, munch. This caterpillar is very hungry...for vocabulary! After reading Eric Carle's classic book, work with your students to create inspired sentences of their own.

OBJECTIVE

Students will read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle, and learn key vocabulary words, practice sentence building, and utilize critical thinking and visual learning skills.

MATERIALS

Child-safe scissors, green construction paper, note cards, push pins.

SET UP AND PREPARE

1. Before you begin the lesson, work with students to cut out a larger-than-life version of the very hungry caterpillar to hang on your classroom bulletin board. The body of your caterpillar should be made up of large pieces of construction paper. Let students cut out shapes of fruit (apples, bunches of grapes, watermelon, and so on).

2. Hang the shapes together in a line. The vocabulary words are to be pinned inside the paper shapes, and when combined, should form creative sentences about the book.



DIRECTIONS

1. Read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle with your students.
2. Have a brainstorming session with your students about key words or concepts they remember from the story. Create a list of the vocabulary words, then write each word on its own note card.
3. Be sure to review what a noun and adjective is, giving examples for each.
4. Also be sure to include words such as "the," "a," "very," "but," and so on. Aim for a large amount of words, so when you assign words to your students, each child gets approximately 3 words. Some suggested words include: appetite, fruit, vegetable, leaf, nature, insect.
5. Distribute the vocabulary note cards to students, making sure every student has the same amount.

6. Have students take turns approaching the caterpillar and attaching a word somewhere on the caterpillar's body. See how many creative sentences your class can make!

