

# THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR

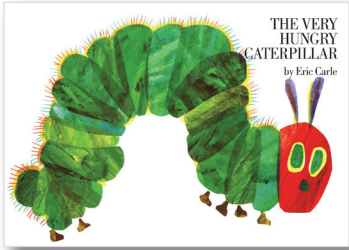
Written and illustrated by Eric Carle  
 Arranged for Readers Theatre by Joan Macon



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Note to teacher/organizer/leader: Because this story has no dialogue, it has been arranged for whole class or group participation. Instead of individual parts, except for the three narrators, the whole class is divided into four groups: A, B, C and D. To be certain that every child can read the script, we recommend projecting it on an overhead transparency, an ELMO, or printing it out for each child or group. Add to the fun by allowing students to draw pictures of the caterpillar's food selections in advance of the read and hold them up as that part is read.



To begin, assign the following "roles." The narrators should be one person each, but you can have as many children in each group as necessary so that everyone has a role.

Role	Name(s)
Narrator 1	
Narrator 2	
Narrator 3	
Group A	
Group B	
Group C	
Group D	

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Continued

- Narrator 1:** In the light of the moon a little egg lay on a leaf.
- Narrator 2:** One Sunday morning the warm sun came up and—pop!—out of the egg came a tiny and very hungry caterpillar.
- Narrator 3:** He started to look for some food.
- Group A:** On Monday he ate through one apple.
- Narrator 1:** But he was still hungry.
- Group B:** On Tuesday he ate through two pears.
- Narrator 2:** But he was still hungry.
- Group C:** On Wednesday he ate through three plums.
- Narrator 3:** But he was still hungry.
- Group D:** On Thursday he ate through four strawberries.
- Narrator 1:** But he was still hungry,
- Group A:** On Friday he ate through five oranges.
- Narrator 2:** But he was still hungry.
- Group B:** On Saturday he ate through one piece of chocolate cake,
- Group C:** one ice cream cone,
- Group D:** one pickle,
- Group A:** one slice of Swiss cheese,
- Group B:** one slice of salami,
- Group C:** one lollipop,
- Group D:** one piece of cherry pie,
- Group A:** one sausage,
- Group B:** one cupcake,
- Group C:** and one slice of watermelon.
- Narrator 3:** That night he had a stomachache!
- Narrator 1:** The next day was Sunday again.
- Group D:** The caterpillar ate through one nice green leaf, and after that he felt much better.
- Narrator 2:** Now he wasn't hungry any more—and he wasn't a little caterpillar any more.
- Narrator 3:** He was a big, fat caterpillar.
- Narrator 1:** He built a small house, called a cocoon, around himself.
- Narrator 2:** He stayed inside for more than two weeks.
- Narrator 3:** Then he nibbled a hole in the cocoon, pushed his way out, and...
- Everyone:** HE WAS A BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLY!