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# Introduction and Sample Lessons

A good book can touch the lives of children like a good friend. Great care has been taken in selecting the books and activities featured in the Literature Unit series. All the activities are intended for use with primary students, grades 1–3. Some activities may need to be modified to meet the needs of students at various levels of ability. (Several modification options are included in *Suggestions for Using the Unit Activities*, pages 7–13.) Activities in all academic subjects have been incorporated to make this a unit which teaches and reinforces skills across the curriculum. It is hoped that students will enjoy the story while gaining knowledge and skills in all areas.

Teachers who use the activities to supplement their own ideas can follow one of the following methods.

## Sample Lesson Plan

The sample lesson plan on page 4 provides you with a specific set of introductory lesson plan suggestions for *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Each of the lessons can take from one to several days to complete and can include all or some of the suggested activities. Refer to *Suggestions for Using the Unit Activities* for information relating to the unit activities.

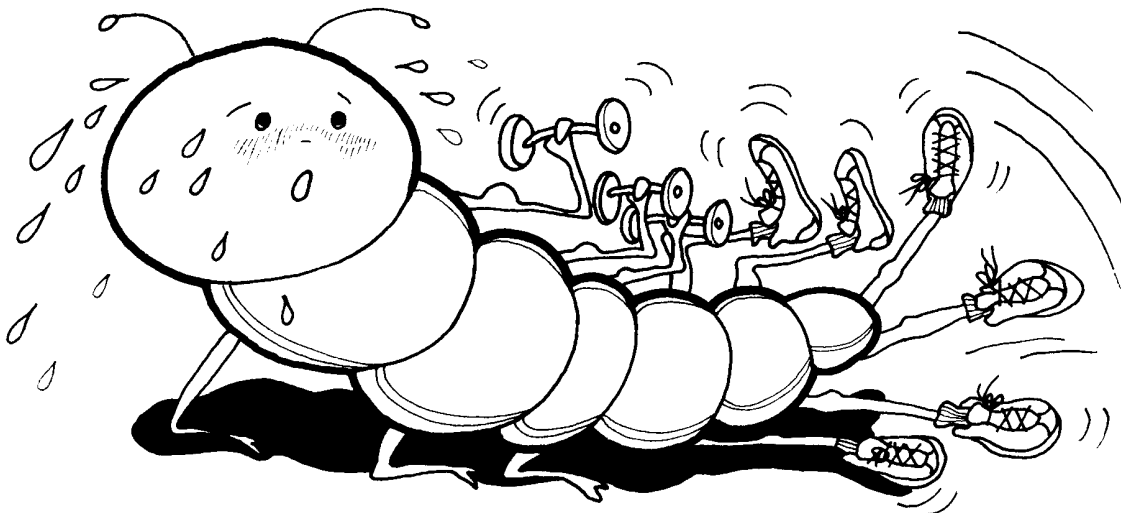
## Unit Planner

If you wish to tailor the suggestions on pages 7–13 to a format other than the one prescribed, a blank Unit Planner is provided on page 5. On a specific day, you may choose activities you wish to include by writing the activity number or a brief notation about the lesson in the Unit Activities section. Space has also been provided for reminders, comments, and other pertinent information related to each day's activities. Reproduce copies of the Unit Planner as needed.

# Journal and Creative Writing Ideas

Here are some ideas you may wish to use in your journals or for other creative writing activities. You may be asked to write on your own or complete a writing activity by working in pairs, small groups, or as a whole class.

- Every time the caterpillar bites into a food other than leaves, it magically changes into another creature. Write what happens.
- Imagine that the caterpillar meets another bug who becomes its best friend. Create a story web to prepare an original story about the caterpillar and its new friend.
- Imagine that the caterpillar is allergic to leaves. Write about what happens and how the caterpillar solves its problem.
- Write about a scary adventure when the caterpillar meets a very hungry bird.
- Pretend that the caterpillar is now living in a glass jar in your classroom. Write about its experiences from the caterpillar's point of view.
- Write a new story. Choose one of these titles: 'The Very Bashful Caterpillar,' 'The Very Lazy Caterpillar,' 'The Very Confused Caterpillar,' or 'The Very Old Caterpillar.'
- Imagine you wake up one morning on a leaf and are the size of a caterpillar. What happens?
- The caterpillar has eaten too much and decides to exercise. Describe its exercise routine.



# Caterpillar Feast

To really top off your reading and exploration of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, host a Caterpillar Feast. Serve fruit salad and fruit punch. Add leaves for garnish. Invite parents or another class to share your caterpillar treats. Use the invitation below.

At your celebration, you might also consider sharing your original stories, stick puppet plays, and other work you have done throughout this unit. See the bibliography (page 47) for poetry sources in order to offer caterpillar and butterfly recitations.



**We made it!**

**Now we are celebrating, and we want you to come along for our  
Very Hungry Caterpillar Feast.**

**When:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Where:** \_\_\_\_\_

**We will also be sharing our work. Please fly on by to see what we have learned and accomplished!**