The Very Hungry Caterpillar Kit

SKILL AREA – HAVE FUN WITH BOOKS
1. Activity – ALPHABET PUZZLE BOOK and PATTERN PUZZLE—Help children match the correct picture to the correct letter of the Alphabet Puzzle Book. The pattern puzzles allow children to recognize shapes. Shapes are the foundation of letters and words in reading.

Play is the Foundation of Early Literacy!

SKILL AREA – TALK, TALK, TALK
2. Activity – IMAGINATIVE PLAY – CATERPILLAR CAFÉ
What did the caterpillar eat? What do you like to eat? Pretend you are at a restaurant and placing your order. What does the waiter do? What would you like to eat?

The more words children hear, the larger their vocabulary becomes. Children with a large vocabulary have an enormous advantage in learning to read. Literacy relies on symbolism. Dramatic play with three-dimensional materials supports this process, as does drawing and making marks on paper.

Supplies. Wooden Fruit, Picnic Basket Play-set; Tablecloth, Menus with pictures of caterpillar food and pictures of kid food (pizza, macaroni and etc...)

3. Activity – THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR PUPPET SHOW
Supplies. The Very Hungry Caterpillar Hand Puppet and Butterfly Hand Puppet. Allow children to retell the story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar with the hand puppets. *Dramatic Play is a child’s way of imitating the world around them.*

4. **Activity – METAMORPHISIS TUNNEL**
   Children enter the tunnel as a caterpillar and emerge as a butterfly…
   *The great majority of all learning in the first few years of life involves sensory input and movements within the child’s body.*
   
   **Supplies.** Crawl-Through Caterpillar Tunnel; Several Brightly Colored Scarves

**SKILL AREA – NOTICE PRINT ALL AROUND**

1. **Activity – CREATE A PICTURE MENU FOR THE CATERPILLAR CAFÉ**
   Let your child use either crayons or colored pencils and plain white paper to create a restaurant menu like the Caterpillar Café Menu.
   *Children come to understand that words we speak have a relationship to marks on the page through experience.*
   
   **Supplies.** Paper (You Provide), Markers (Provided), Crayons (Provided)

**SKILL AREA – TELL STORIES ABOUT EVERYTHING**

1. **Activity – SEQUENCE FRUIT PICTURES**
   Encourage your child to retell the story of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*
   *Sequencing a story leads to reading comprehension.*
   
   **Supplies.** You supply a Magnetic board or even the side of a filing cabinet; laminated fruit pictures from *The Very Hungry Caterpillar.*

2. **Activity – BOOKMAKING**
   Encourage your child to draw the story of “The Very Hungry Caterpillar”
   Let children illustrate a book (maybe what they did today in the library.)
   Adults can write what children dictate.
   
   **Supplies.** My First Storybook Pages, Triangular Crayons, Triangular Colored Pencils

**SKILL AREA – LOOK FOR LETTERS EVERYWHERE**

1. **Activity – LETTER PUZZLE**
   Look for the shapes in letters.
Before children learn to recognize and make letters, they need many experiences with the shapes that make letters.

**Supplies.** Self Correcting Alphabet Puzzle

**SKILL AREA – TAKE TIME TO RHYME**

1. **Activity**—Dr. Seuss Rhyme

   *If you never did, you should, these things are fun and fun is good. ~Dr. Seuss*

When learning to read, children need to be able to hear sounds in words. Songs and rhymes expose your child to the rhythm of the language.

THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR

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**What You Will Need to Provide.**

- Baskets
- Paper
- Extra Copies of My First Storybook