

The Early Years Count **Literacy** Connection



Can you guess? Animal Sounds with The Very Hungry Caterpillar

Written by Eric Carle

Infant/Toddler edition

Overview of Book

Explore animal sounds with *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and guess the name of the animal that makes each sound. This fun and engaging board book invites a journey as you make the sounds and see the colors of many different animals: Can you guess...together!

Genre: Board book

Vocabulary

Books are a rich source of words new to children. Here are some from *Can you guess? Animal Sounds* to introduce in your classroom:

Animal names:

Bird	Monkey	Snake
Owl	Tiger	

Each time you read the book, highlight 2 or 3 words.

Use age-appropriate definitions and/or refer to the illustrations to help children understand each word's meaning.

Use the new words throughout the day, reminding children, "That's a word from our story!"

Connecting with HighScope Curriculum

COR Advantage 1.5

Language, Literacy,
and Communication
Item M
(*Listening and
comprehension*)

Social and Emotional
Development
Item E
(*Building relationships with
adults*)

Science and
Technology
Item BB
(*Observing and
classifying*)

Reading Tips

Have fun making the sounds on each page as you invite infants and toddlers to make guesses of the animal names. Give the children other clues too—the colors on each page are lovely! Use a questioning tone as you invite wonder.

Let children lead the way and connect the animal names and sounds. Invite the children to repeat the sounds you make or offer their own—what do *they* think birds or snakes sound like?

Three readings are recommended to familiarize children with the story. During each reading the adult can introduce new vocabulary words, pose open-ended questions, and engage children in activities that make the story "come alive."

Throughout the Routine

Refer to the book throughout the day and use new vocabulary words in meaningful ways. Active engagement with the story helps the content come alive.

At Music and Movement Group time, invite the children to move like the animals in the book. Offer choice as you invite children to make animal sounds in many different ways.

For Group Time with Materials offer paint and encourage children to paint the colors they see in the book.

Around the Room

Highlight the book's content and build on the children's excitement in a variety of locations.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar hides on each page. Hide animals around the room and invite children to 'find' them and make the sounds as they do!

Place other pictures of the animals in the book around the room. Encourage comparisons with the paintings in the book. Gather animals and invite pretend.

Open-ended Questions

Reading with infants is all about relationship, connection, and words.

Use an animated voice as you make the sounds of the animals and invite children to make a guess. Let children turn the pages, name colors and even tell stories about each animal.

Draw babies in to the story with your comments, questions, and pauses.

Infants may not be able to answer questions yet, but they will quickly appreciate the 'back and forths' with books.

For more information on how to use books and stories with children to enhance your curriculum, contact
The Family Connection:

website—
www.famconn.org

Facebook—
[@famconnsjc](https://www.facebook.com/famconnsjc)

phone—
574-237-9740

@ Home

Since many children in our county will have this book at home, use it to further the home-school connection. In your daily contact—in person or by text, email or other notes home—encourage families to share *Can you Guess? Animal Sounds* with their children. Here's a sample message you can send:

Can you Guess? Animal Sounds is an interactive and fun read. Make the sounds on the page and invite guesses—what might this animal be? Have you ever seen this animal anywhere? What else might make that sound? Together with your child, find The Very Hungry Caterpillar on each page. Move like the animals in the book, or any other animals your child might like!