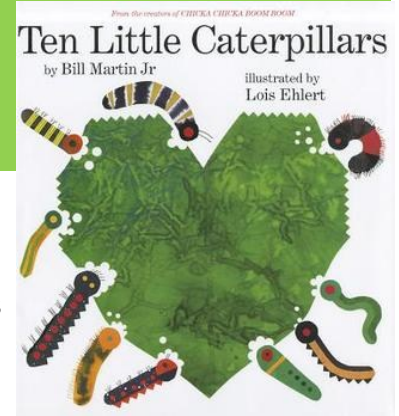


Pre-K Essential Literature

Ten Little Caterpillars

by Bill Martin Jr.



- Talk about rhyming words. Locate the rhyming words in the story.
- Talk about “wriggle”. Act out wriggling on the floor.
- Come up with gestures of a caterpillar eating a leaf.
- Compare birds and fish and how they catch caterpillars and other bugs.
- Count the caterpillars in the book.
- Notice the caterpillars on the stems and leaves. What are they doing?
- Eat some cabbages, melons, and apples after reading *Ten Little Caterpillars*
- Read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, and compare the 2 stories. What makes them the same? What makes them different?
- Describe what happens to the butterfly after it changes? Does it stay in the same place or fly away?

Counting Caterpillars

- Using objects to identify the amount of a number helps children in creating groups. Learning to count and identify an amount will aid children in their quest in learning how to work with numbers.
- After reading the story give your child a bag of 15 rolled pipe cleaners shaped like caterpillars. Parents can make cards labeled 1,2,3,4,5 next the child will pull out a card and put that many caterpillars on the card. The children will do this until all cards are pulled; if the child knows numbers 1 to 5 numbers 6 to 10 can be added to the bag for the child

I Am a Butterfly– Art

- Cut out 10 caterpillar shapes out of different colors of construction paper. Glue all 10 shapes onto a piece of card stock on different parts of the paper. Next take stickers as well as craft foam pieces and have your child to glue pieces on the caterpillars to create different types.
- Get 10 circles of different colors and make a caterpillar
- Get finger paint and make hand prints of butterflies.

Caterpillar Feelings

- Sometimes things that are bigger than us may scare or frighten us. Talk to your child about what to do if they are afraid. Have them to draw a picture of something big that scared them.
- Talk to the children about their feelings and what to do. Discuss with your child that not all situations or people larger than them will cause fear. After reading *Ten Little Caterpillars*, discuss with the children how the caterpillars were brave when facing birds and fish.

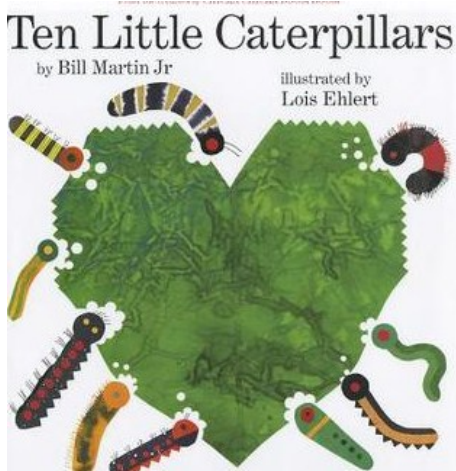
Caterpillar\Butterfly Hunt

- Take a nature walk and look for different butterflies and caterpillars. Talk about what you see.

Looking beyond the cover: *Ten Little Caterpillars*

About the Author

Bill Martin, Jr. is a beloved native of Kansas. Born in 1916, Bill grew up in Hiawatha and struggled learning to reading. He could read words but could not construct meaning. Coming from a family with rich oral storytelling skills, Bill learned to love stories and understood the importance of language in conveying meaning. One of the first positive experiences Bill had with reading and books was in fifth grade when his teacher read aloud twice a day. Bill felt that she was reading through the voice of the book, making the characters come alive. Because of this experience, as well as his own struggles, Bill became an advocate for creating books that have a strong voice. His books are full of rhyme, rhythm, and musical language. Each book is unique with dynamic word choice and image-building language. Descriptive adjectives and adverbs keep his books a rocking, prancing, and wriggling across the pages. Bill has written or co-written over 300 books. Bill says, "I don't write books, I talk them. I need to hear what I have to say."



More Interactive Read Alouds

Interactive read alouds are amazing for young, curious children. The music, call and response, are some examples that empower children to read books even before they can really read. They are outstanding for story time.

For close reading, ask children to discuss the different caterpillars they saw in the story.

Here's a list of some of our favorite interactive read alouds:

Jump, Frog, Jump! By Robert Kalan

Yo! Yes? By Chris Raschka

Down by the Cool of the Pool by Tony Mitton

Go Away Big Green Monster by Ed Emberley

Press Here by Herve Tullet

Anansi and the Moss Covered Rock by Eric Kimmell

Check it out!

Like *Ten Caterpillars*? Here are some other books by Bill Martin Jr. :

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom

Brown Bear Brown Bear

What Do You See?

Polar Bear Polar Bear What

Do You Hear?

Panda Bear, Panda Bear,

What Do You See?

