

## The Very Hungry Caterpillar Unit Butterflies and Moths

Virginia's Foundation Blocks for Early Learning: Comprehensive Standards for Four -Year Olds, 2007

These standards are beacon lights for my curriculum. I adapt them according to the ability of my students. I use them as goals to strive towards or as background building for my students' future learning. These goals are my focus, but they are not the only objectives being utilized by the following lessons. Language and social goals are incorporated into our classroom daily routines.

### I. Virginia Science Foundation Block 1: Scientific Investigation, Reasoning and Logic (pg. 25)

\*The child will make observations, separate objects into groups based on similar attributes, develop questions based upon observations using the five senses.

### II. Concepts to be taught:

#### 1. Butterflies go through a life cycle or metamorphosis

- Caterpillars hatch out of eggs
- Caterpillars grow very fast (shed its skin several times)
- The caterpillar becomes fully grown in 3 weeks
- Then the caterpillar finds a place to rest
- The caterpillar builds a house about itself called a "chrysalis" or a "cocoon"
- When it is time to wake up the caterpillar has changed into a butterfly
- The wings are very soft and wet when the butterfly emerges from the chrysalis
- It takes approximately 2 hours for the wings to harden so the butterfly can fly

#### 2. The butterfly gets its food from flowers

- Tastes with its feet
- Uses its tongue like a straw to drink "juice" or nectar from the flowers

#### 3. Birds and monkeys like to eat butterflies

#### 4. Butterflies are many different colors, and sizes

#### 5. Uses "camouflage" (or putting on a costume to look like where they live) for protection

### Comparison Between a Moth and Butterfly

Moth	Same for both	Butterfly
Active at night	tongues roll up like a fruit roll up	Active in the day
Feed on nectar	has 6 legs	Carry pollen with feet
May live only a few days	Scaled wings	Some Migrate ( go on vacation)
Antenna look like feathers	Many colors	Antenna has knobs
Shorter, fatter body	3 body parts	longer , slender body
	Uses camouflage "has a costume" to look like where it lives	

### III. Books that can be read:

#### A. Teacher Made Books that I have made:

- Our Butterfly Book: Teaches butterfly facts/concepts
- Butterfly, Butterfly by Jean Warren- made into a book with illustrations
- Fuzzy Wuzzy Caterpillar - poem make into a book with illustrations
- Butterfly Journeys! - poem make into a book with illustrations
- The Butterfly - poem make into a book with illustrations

#### B. Books that I own:

- The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle
- Pop Up: Caterpillar to Butterfly by Elizabeth Rodger
- Butterfly Magic by Melissa Getzoff
- A Wiggle Eye Book : Beautiful Butterfly by Marta Berowska
- Look A Butterfly by David Cutts

### IV. Activities:

#### 1, Life Cycle Circle:

- Use a poster board or sturdy paper plate,
- Section it into 4 sections
- Section 1.: construction paper leaf with a dried bean on it (typically a white one that you would plant)
- Section 2: a caterpillar, you may use a variety of materials to make a caterpillar, usually a small pompom caterpillar ( Made prints last year)
- Section 3. Cocoon : use a twig and cotton balls twisted on it
- Section 4: Butterfly: pipe cleaners for body twisted around tissue paper wings

#### IV. Activities continued;

2. **Butterfly Antenna:** Make a head band out of construction paper, tape on pipe cleaner antenna with large pompom on the end,
3. **Moth Antenna:** Make a head band out of construction paper, tape on large craft feathers or make paper feathers for the moth antenna
4. Caterpillars and caterpillars to butterflies
  - Egg carton caterpillars.
    1. cut into sections of three length wise,
    2. decorate with markers or paint
    3. Staple two pieces of paper that the children have brightly colored- one on each side to wrap up egg carton.
    4. wrap a rubber band around the cocoon
    5. cut the cocoon into wings and
    6. let the children see their butterflies
5. Use patterns in Sample sections to make wings. You can decorate the wings by doing any of the following:
  - **Paint Resist:** can be colored with crayons and then use water paints for paint resist
  - **Marble Paint:** can be put in a shallow pan and put paint on it and roll a few marbles across it
  - **Blob paint:** put paint in the middle of paper, let children fold paper and press, when dry, cut out into butterfly wings
  - **Sponge Paint :** Use a sponge or a bath squeezy to paint with
6. **Coffee Filter Butterflies;** dip basket coffee filters in water that has food color in it, clip wings together with clothes pin
7. **Play dough or clay butterflies**
8. **Make Hungry Caterpillar books:**
9. **Caterpillar paper bag puppets**
10. **Wax paper Butterfly:**
  - take wax paper and cut out wings,
  - put crayon shavings between the wax paper
  - iron on low setting until the crayon shaving melt
  - glue on a paper outline to cover the outside of the butterfly wings

## **Moths:**

### 1. Luna Moth:

- Cut out Luna moth out of grocery bags,
- Crumple up the paper, and wet it.
- Let it dry
- Paint it with lime green paint ( mix in yellow to get the green you want)
- Add fake feathers for antenna

## **V. Food:**

1. Sugar cookies cut out with a butterfly shaped cookie cutter, let children ice
2. Taste of the food that the hungry caterpillar ate

## Poem:

If I Were A Butterfly by Marie E. Cecchini

If I were a butterfly  
Then no one would know  
Where ever it was  
I decided to go

I would visit a farm  
A lake or a zoo  
You just never know  
What it is I might do

Maybe I'll flit  
From flower to flower  
Drawing up nectar  
To drink by the hour

I might like to go  
To the park or the beach  
Or soar to the sky  
Where no one could reach

I think I would try it  
At least I would try

But I don't have wings like a butterfly.