

Celebrate Eric Carle's 80th Birthday

Description of Program: Eric Carle will celebrate his 80th birthday this year and the 40th anniversary of the publication of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Come to hear some of his best stories and then make crafts and play games. We'll enjoy birthday cake and sample some of the foods that the famous caterpillar enjoyed on his way to becoming a beautiful butterfly!!

Stories

Mister Seahorse: After Mrs. Seahorse lays her eggs on Mr. Seahorse's belly, he drifts through the water, greeting other fish fathers who are taking care of their eggs.

The Secret Birthday Message: A message in code starts Tim off on an exciting treasure hunt until he finds his special birthday surprise. Features die-cut pages.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar: Follows the progress of a hungry little caterpillar as he eats his way through a varied and very large quantity of food until, full at last, he forms a cocoon around himself and goes to sleep and wakes up a butterfly.

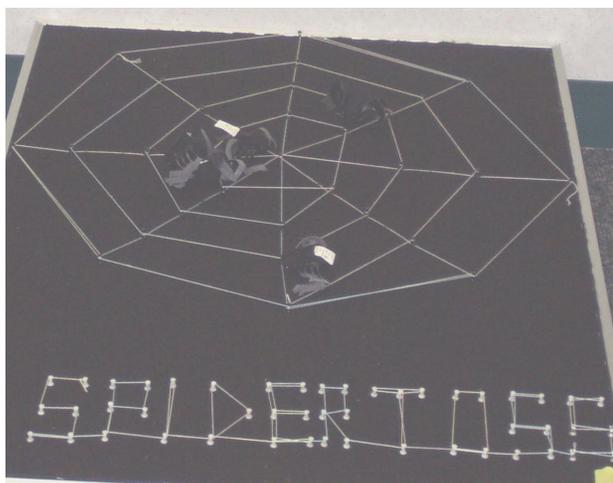
The Very Busy Spider: The farm animals try to divert a busy little spider from spinning her web, but she persists and produces a thing of both beauty and usefulness. The pictures may be felt as well as seen.

PowerPoint

Eric Carle Book PowerPoint Quiz: A description of different Eric Carle books and the audience needs to guess what book it is describing. (email marshall@addisonlibrary.org for PowerPoint)

Craft, Game & Activity Stations

The following activities and games can be set up as stations so that children can choose which one to do and how long to stay at each station. A total of 6-8 craft, activity, and game stations works best:



Games & Activity Stations

Matching: Make cards from book covers for a matching game

Big Puzzle: Purchase a big floor puzzle of the Hungry Caterpillar for children to play with.

Cube puzzle: Purchase the Carle cube puzzle (1 picture on each side, 9 different cubes).

Order of foods:

Laminate

pieces of all the foods that the caterpillar ate so the children can put them in the right order on the flannel board.

(Orange, Strawberry, Pear, Plum, Apple, Cake, Ice cream, Pickles, Cheese, Salami, Lollipop, Cherry pie, Sausage, Cupcakes, Watermelon leaf)

Toss the spider on the web- Make a web on a big black felt board with yarn and push pins. The kids toss the spider finger puppets onto the web.





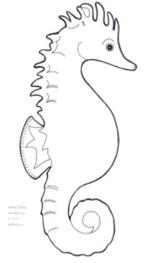
Craft Stations

Seahorse in a Fish Bowl Craft

What you will need: Construction paper and poster board, sandwich size resealable bag, colorful beads, paper "plants", staples, glue, copies of seahorses to color

What to do:

- Print out the fish bowl pattern <http://www.daniellesplace.com/Images12/fishbowlpat.gif> and cut out two from poster board.
- Take two matching fish bowl pieces and staple a plastic bag around the edge of the cut out construction paper fish bowls **on all sides except the top**.
- Color and cut out one or more small seahorses (see pattern)
- Put some grass into the bowl all the way down to the bottom and staple the bottom of each piece. Add some beads and the seahorses (the colored side up) to the bag. Arrange the items the way you want.
- Seal the bag zipper. Place glue dots (or glue) all the way around the other fishbowl and carefully stick it down on top the plastic bag, lining up the two fishbowls.



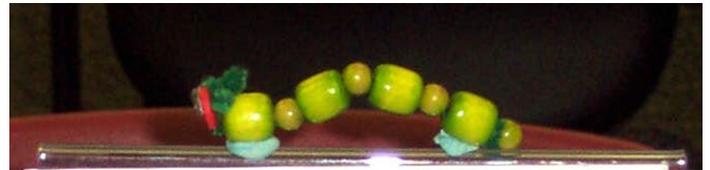
Make a Hungry Caterpillar

What you will need: 4 large green beads, 4 small green beads, 1 small red bead with eyes drawn on; Pipe-cleaners

- String a small bead on the pipe cleaner first followed by a big bead.
- To hold the end in place, bend the end of pipe cleaner over the small bead and push it into the large bead.
- Add the remaining beads onto the other end of the pipe cleaner, alternating between big beads and small beads.
- End with the red bead, making sure the eyes face out.
- Bend end over the top and push the end into the last green bead. Bend the pipe cleaner up to make the red bead look good.
- Push the antennae (smaller pipecleaners) between the red bead and the bent pipe cleaner.
- Take a page of foods and cut them out in case your caterpillar gets hungry!

Snacks Mini cupcakes, cookies, and oranges cut into eighths

Treat Bags Eric Carle bookmarks and stickers and lollipops.



Online Sources of Ideas

Party Ideas www.birthdaypartyideas.com

Sources of Party Goods: A variety of materials based on Eric Carle Characters can be purchased from the following:

Toy Hunt party supplies www.thetoyhunt.com

Picture Book Arts www.picturebookart.org/Shop/Eric_Carle_Themes

More information or questions?

Contact Mary Marshall, Addison Public Library, marshall@addisonlibrary.org