

Activity	The Very Hungry Caterpillar		
Key:	Due the various abilities of our children we have graded some of the activities into different levels. Your child may access different levels depending on the activity as well as their ability.	Contact details:	schools@cdssgroup.org.uk
Seeds		All Education Advocates access this email. Sarah Larkin (Cheshire West) Becky Harris (Cheshire West) Yvonne Edwardson (Cheshire East)	
Saplings			
Trees			

Brief description of Activity



Look at the life cycle of a butterfly, reinforce counting skills and learn lots of Makaton signs for food using The Very Hungry Caterpillar story by Eric Carle.

Resources needed

- The Hungry Caterpillar story by Eric Carle.
- If you do not have the book at home here is a link to an animated version on You tube. [Hungry Caterpillar animation - You tube](#)
- There is also a signed version by singing hands on <https://singinghands.co.uk/makaton-signed-story/the-very-hungry-caterpillar-signed-story/>
- www.makaton.org The Makaton shop currently has the signs and symbols for The Hungry Caterpillar story in printable resources for 99p amongst many other classic stories and resources.
- Makaton food signs and symbols attached.

Activity – Seeds and Saplings

Once you have read the story you could...

Look at the book again and prompt your child to retell you the story.

Can you sign all the food items in the story? The Makaton resource will help you. To practise signing you could print out two copies of the Makaton signs and play a matching game by cutting up the sign/symbols and place face down. Pick up two pieces and see if they match. Sign them as you go.



Can your child remember the different foods the caterpillar ate? Which are healthy/unhealthy options? Discuss what your favourite foods are. What colours are the foods that the caterpillar eats? Do you have a favourite colour?

Practice counting activities with your child (support this with Numicon if you have it available). Count how many fruits the caterpillar ate each day, reinforcing numbers 1-5. If this knowledge is secure they may be able to tell you how many altogether, how many different fruits?

Discuss that the caterpillar was once an egg and then will change into a butterfly once it has spent some time in its 'house' called a cocoon as a pupa or chrysalis. You can buy a butterfly hatching kit from www.insectlore.co.uk at £20 if you really want to bring this activity to life.



Look for caterpillars in the garden or out on a walk. Here are some good words to use to describe a caterpillar – Green, spikey, wriggly, yellow, curly, fluffy, orange, dotty, bendy.

Make a butterfly picture by painting one half of a piece of paper and fold the other half onto the painted half to make a symmetrical pattern. Help your child to draw and cut it out into the shape of a butterfly if you wish.

Make a fruit smoothie together. Let your child chop up bananas and strawberries and blend with milk or apple juice.

Activity - Trees

Can your child sequence the life cycle of a butterfly? Watch a real life butterfly cycle on you tube. What other living creatures have interesting life cycles? Look at frogs or chickens. Which other living things do not look like the same when they were born?



Can you find pictures of you as a baby, young child, older? What did the rest of the family look like when they were younger?

Attachments

Hungry Caterpillar addition
Hungry caterpillar maths booklet
Hungry caterpillar pencil control
Life cycle of a butterfly

Cheshire Downs Syndrome Support Group

Registered Charity Number 1146127.

Website address: www.cheshiredownssyndrome.com

Phone number: 07518 590300

Support us at: www.justgiving.com/cheshiredownssyndrome/raisemoney