

# The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Invertebrates

## EYFS - How to guide

Collect equipment from the centre and follow the map to Community Wood

### Equipment

**All equipment is provided: please do not bring your own.**

- The Very Hungry Caterpillar board book
- Caterpillar Café Leaf matching sheet
- Invertebrate hunting equipment, each small group will need:
  - 1 white tray and a stick
  - 1 brush
  - 1 bug box
  - 1 identification guide
- Laminated butterfly pairs

### Instructions

1. Read the Story (in the woods if dry, or in the yard if wet). Discuss what do caterpillars really eat?
2. Caterpillar Café: use the identification sheet to explore and match leaves in the wood and name common species. Can they find any leaves that a caterpillar has already eaten?

3. Invertebrate hunting: The white trays and sticks are for tree tapping: trays are held under a branch and the branch tapped gently to dislodge invertebrates into the tray for identification

Bug boxes are to be placed in front of a animal and the brush used to gently sweep animals into the pot. Place the lid on being carefully not to catch any legs/wings etc. Be careful not to accidentally hurt it. No slugs, snails or worms should be put in bug boxes as this makes them very sticky and other animals will get stuck to them!

Use the Invertebrate Identification sheet to identify the animal then return it back where you found it.

#### **Important:**

- never pick the animals up with your fingers as they can easily be squashed by accident. Some animals might also feel threatened and try to bite, but they are all very small and no animals are dangerous enough to pose a real risk.
  - Don't put too many animals together in a pot, they don't all get on!
4. Matching Butterflies: hang half of each butterfly on trees and bushes. Give pupils the other half and ask them to find the matching wing.  
Discuss: symmetry, can they recall the names of any of the butterflies?

## At the end of the activity

1. Collect in all laminated butterflies.
2. Return all equipment to the box and return to the centre.
3. Wash hands

