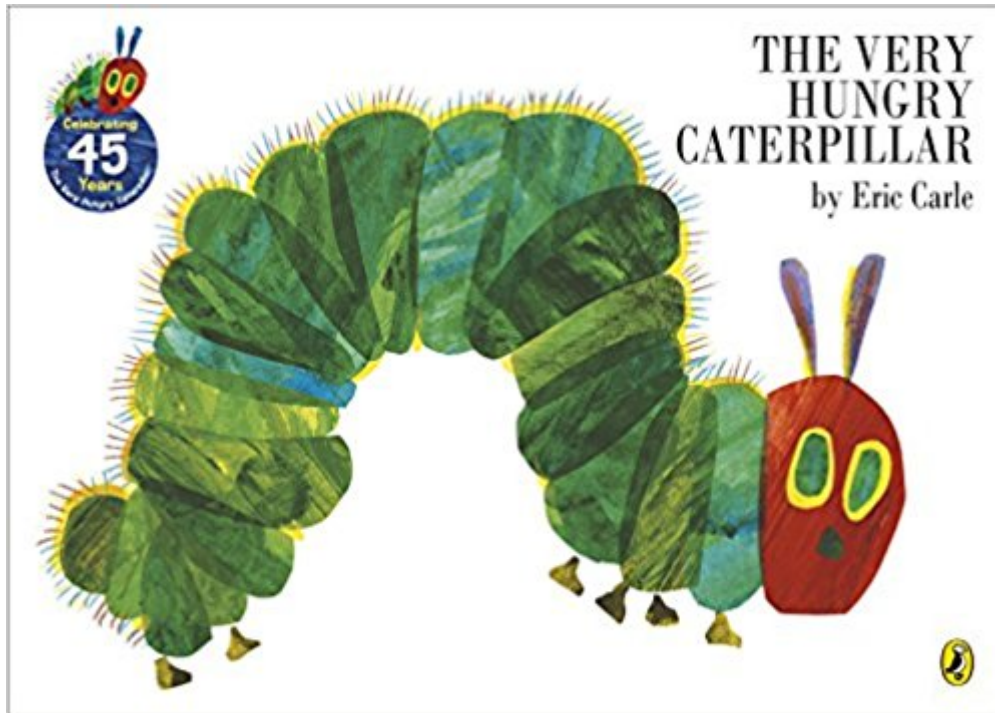




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The Very Hungry Caterpillar (Picture Puffins)



Synopsis

The classic edition of the bestselling story written for the very young. A newly hatched caterpillar eats his way through all kinds of food.

Book Information

Paperback: 28 pages

Publisher: Puffin Bks; 37594th edition (November 28, 2002)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 0.1 x 2.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 3,210 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #12,224 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Bugs & Spiders

Customer Reviews

With its lovely, humorous illustrations and wonderful narrative about a hungry caterpillar growing up to be a beautiful butterfly, Eric Carle's story touches anyone who still has some growing to do. Along with reassuring repetition--"He was still hungry ..."--the book includes some wonderful interactive moments: what youngster can resist sticking a finger through that hole in the page as his ravenous friend makes his way through various delicacies? --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

One sunny Sunday, the caterpillar was hatched out of a tiny egg. He was very hungry. On Monday, he ate through one apple; on Tuesday, he ate through three plums--and still he was hungry. Strikingly bold, colorful pictures and a simple text in large, clear type tell the story of a hungry little caterpillar's progress through an amazing variety and quantity of foods. Full at last, he made a cocoon around himself and went to sleep, to wake up a few weeks later wonderfully transformed into a butterfly! Brilliantly innovative designer and artist Eric Carle has dramatized the story of one of Nature's commonest yet loveliest marvels, the metamorphosis of the butterfly, in a picture book to delight as well as instruct the very youngest reader or listener. Cleverly die-cut pages show what the caterpillar ate on successive days, graphically introducing sets of up to 10 objects and also the names of the days of the week in rotation, as well as telling the central story of the transformation of

the caterpillar. The final, double-page picture of the butterfly is a joyous explosion of color, a vibrant affirmation of the wonder and beauty of Nature. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

All the reviews here about size and other issues confused the h*** out of me... so I'm going to help you all out and be extremely specific. I took a chance (since I'm overseas, I can't return it) and bought the Very Hungry Caterpillar Board Book w/ Plush Toy from Amazingsalebooks in used / like new condition for under seven bucks. It is a gift for an expectant mother. I am very happy with this purchase (see my pics). Everything came in like new condition as the seller stated -a relief, because I was reluctant to buy used for a book and plush toy meant for a newborn. Both were spotless, vibrant, and free of creases and markings). Even the gift box it comes in came relatively uncrushed (after traveling in my friend's suitcase through three countries). What I received appears to be a genuine Eric Carle product -the book I got is published by Philomel 1987 edition. I saw reviews where people complained about the print, maybe it was for a smaller edition; I found the print here to be fine. I would say it is about font size 16. The book itself is cute and perfect to read for babies and toddlers (repetition teaching days of the week, numbers 1-7, fruits and other foods, and life cycle). The colors are very vibrant and the book has all the little holes (about the size of a standard hole punch... you won't be able to stick your fingers through, which also means baby can't rip it). It is a solid, sturdy, proper board book with smooth finished edges that I feel comfortable having a baby touch (or even if they suck on it before you notice and pull it out of their mouth). The plush toy is also very well constructed with no loose seems and withstands gentle tugging on the ears, legs, and colored fringy hairs (of course you always need be careful with babies and choking on anything and not let them suck on this more than a moment or unsupervised). Unrelated, I bought a cute Eric Carle baby rattle -see my other review if you are curious.

I used these letters + ribbon to make a Happy Birthday banner for my son. It worked well, the cards are on a medium thickness card stock, a bit thicker than index card thick, but not nearly so thick, say as the Eric Carle Letter Cards. Each Letter is a circle that is 5 1/4" in diameter and brightly colored in the Eric Carle style of collage-y animal backgrounds, so not a solid background. They are very pretty. There are 72 alphabet tiles, and 8 animal tiles. There are 5 yards of ribbon that is in a light lilac/periwinkle blue, decent quality, some cotton-synthetic blend. Each letter circle has two little rectangular slats so that you can thread the ribbon through, that works very easily, there was no issue there. Because the letters are strung through two slats, they stay in position on the ribbon, but can easily be slid along to where you want them to go, they still in spot even if hung at an

angle. Here are the letter counts, there are: 5 - A, E 4 - H, O 3 - B, C, D, G, I, L, M, N, P*, R, S, T, Y* 2 - F, J, K, U, V, W 1 - Q, X, Z* = After spelling 'Happy Birthday' you'll have only one 'P' and one 'Y' left, in case that's important to your child's name. The animals are on a white background, and, as expected, are the Eric Carle animals: Caterpillar, Butterfly, Frog, Elephant, Bear, Hippo, Peacock, and Giraffe. The package itself is a small format, at 7"x5.5", nice presentation. Made in China for those who are interested. It worked really well for us, I was surprised actually, I wasn't expecting a lot, but really liked the results, and received compliments.

My three-year-old twins received this book as a gift when they were newborns and we read it several times a week before bedtime. They never get tired of it! We have a few of Eric Carle's books besides this one but *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* is our favorite. The book tells the story about how a little caterpillar pops out of an egg and he is very hungry so he eats...and eats...and eats! At first he starts by eating one apple on Monday, then two pears on Tuesday, and so on but it isn't enough so each day he eats more and more until his stomach hurts because he ate too much. I won't spoil the ending because it's extremely cute and fun for my twins to look at. We have the board book edition and it's held up extremely well over the past three years considering we are still on our first copy of it! The book measures seven inches by five inches and is a great size for small hands. There are 22 pages in the story which includes fun, beautiful pictures. Each set of pages has one or two sentences so it's a nice length for short attention spans. One thing that is really neat about this book is that since the caterpillar is eating through a number of foods, there are actual holes in the pages big enough for a finger so kids can have fun sticking their fingers through where the caterpillar has eaten. I also like the fact that during the first five days the caterpillar is eating one apple, two pears, three plums, etc. so we've also made this book into a counting story on occasion. *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* is one of my kids' favorite bedtime books and they love for me to read it to them! We love it so much we ordered it as a baby shower gift for a friend and she was pretty excited to receive it. I love the board book edition because it's very durable and we are still on our first copy after three years of twins looking at it quite a bit which is saying a lot! I can't say enough good things about this book and feel it would make a great gift for all babies and young children. I highly recommend it!

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