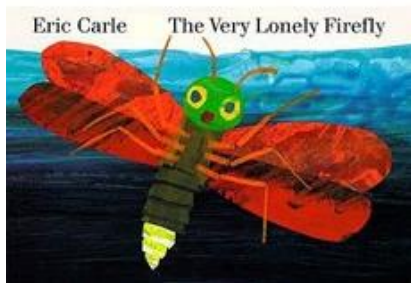


### Books of the Month



**From Head to Toe by Eric Carle** – Not only does this book teach young children about many different animals, it also inspires creative movement. One of the best interactive books for toddlers and always engaging! Ages 1-5.

**The Very Lonely Firefly by Eric Carle** – A beautiful tale about a firefly who searches all over the night time world for another firefly and finally finds what he is looking for after many adventures. Ages 1 and up.

#### Other Books by the author *Eric Carle*.

**1, 2, 3 to the Zoo** – An engaging counting book for young children that also introduces many zoo animals. Ages 1-4.

**Does a Kangaroo Have Mother Too?** – a perfect book for the youngest children that highlights the love between all mothers and their babies. Ages 0-3.

**Do You Want to be my friend?** – A little mouse is looking for a friend in this nearly wordless story. Ages 1-4.

**Papa, Please Get the Moon for Me** – Monica's father climbs way up and grabs moon for her when it is very small in this imaginative story about a love between father and daughter. Ages 3-6.

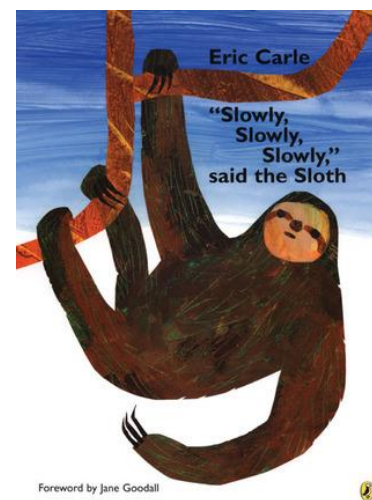
**"Slowly, slowly, slowly" said the sloth** – Why rush through life? This lovely tale about a sloth explains that there are many ways to be and many ways to accomplish goals. Ages 3-6.

**The Tiny Seed** – Eric Carle explains very simply the life cycle of a flower starting with a tiny seed. Ages 3 and up.

**The Very Busy Spider** – Describes a day in the life of a spider who, when asked if she wants to play, does not answer since she "was very busy spinning her web." Ages 1-4.

**The Very Hungry Caterpillar** – One of the most beloved children's classics of all time and one that all children should hear at least 50 times! Ages 1 and up.

**The Very Quiet Cricket** – The little cricket in this story tries and tries to make a sound by rubbing his wings together. It isn't until the end of the story when something very special happens that he is able to make his very own sound! Ages 1 and up.



## Rhymes of the Month

### Caterpillar

*Let the words describe the actions*

Little fuzzy caterpillar  
In your warm cocoon  
The cold winter's over and you'll be  
hatching soon.  
Then you'll spread your wings  
On a warm summer's day  
And wave us all goodbye  
As you fly, fly away.



### Only My Opinion

Is a caterpillar ticklish?  
Well, it's my belief  
That he giggles  
As he wiggles  
Across a hairy leaf!

Monica Shannon

## Learning Ideas for May

### The Very Hungry Caterpillar Snack and Food Drive

As a class, read through the book *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle together again. Talk about all the food that the caterpillar ate through in the story – how many of each food item, what they taste like, etc.

Using the book as your guide, serve apples for snack on Monday, pears on Tuesday, plums on Wednesday...when you get to the Saturday page, you don't need to serve all the food at once but it would be fun to put it all out at once so children could see how much food the caterpillar ate!

\*If you are working with a small group, take the children on a field trip to the grocery store with book in tow and together locate and buy all the food from the story for your snack.

\*Once you have tried all the foods from the book, take some of these food items to your local food bank to donate. Instead of bringing chocolate cake, bring a cake mix, instead of a piece of cherry pie, bring a can of cherry pie filling. **Invite parents to participate in your class food drive by bringing in one item from the story to share. This would provide a wonderful chance for children to begin helping in their community – to see that they can already make a difference.**

### Tissue Paper Collage

#### What you need:

Tissue paper in a variety of colors  
Glue sticks OR  
Elmer's glue and small paint brushes  
Scissors  
Large paper for children to glue on their shapes

Talk with children about how Eric Carle creates the pictures in his books - visit <http://www.eric-carle.com/creativeprojects.html> for a slide show and further explanation -

Post pictures from Eric Carle's books around your room or put out a variety of his books on tables to inspire children.

Invite children to create their own Eric Carle inspired collages. Anything goes and it's all about the process of creating art and the joy of this creativity!

- Ask children to describe their creation when they have finished – write down what they say.

Free STARS trainings are listed at [www.piercecountylibrary.org](http://www.piercecountylibrary.org) . You may register for STARS classes by clicking on the date of the class on the **Calendar** of the Pierce County Library web site: [www.piercecountylibrary.org](http://www.piercecountylibrary.org).