



# VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR

BY ERIC CARLE



## TIPS FOR THE READER

In this kit, you will find a wonderful children’s book and practical resources you can use to help a child develop important lifelong skills. Use these tips to engage the child in talking about the story, further developing vocabulary, comprehension and a love of reading. Finally, use the provided materials and **Activity Instructions** to extend and practice new skills.

### VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR BY ERIC CARLE

Often described as one of the greatest childhood classics of all time, the book features a caterpillar who eats its way through a wide variety of food before pupating and emerging as a butterfly.

**Themes covered:** nutrition, metamorphosis, days of the week

**Skills developed:** counting, naming fruits, recognizing the words for colors, fine motor skills, large motor skills

#### Verbal Prompts

Before reading...

- \* Ask: Have you ever seen a caterpillar? What do you think they feel like? Would you let a caterpillar crawl on you?
- \* Show the front of the book and read the book title and author.
- \* Show the back cover and ask the children what they think the hole in the leaf is.

While reading...

- \* Ask about the fruit. What is it? How many are there? What color is it?
- \* Encourage children to say, “but he was still hungry” and point to the words every time the phrase comes up.
- \* On the picture of the cocoon, ask if the children know what it is called. Ask them what they think will happen to the caterpillar in the cocoon.

After reading, ask...

- \* Which fruits in the book do you like the best?
- \* What does your favorite fruit taste like? Is it sweet, sour, spicy?
- \* Why did the caterpillar get a tummy ache? What did he eat to make his tummy feel better? Have you ever eaten a leaf? Talk about spinach, lettuce and other greens on salads and how they are also good for children, not just for caterpillars.



## **PROP/PUZZLE/GAME 1** **PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS**

# **MOVING THROUGH THE HUNGRY BUTTERFLY BOOK**

Help reinforce the story and build children's large motor skills  
with this butterfly activity!

### **Kit Assembly Instructions**

Include the book and **Tips for the Reader** in the kit.



## PROP/PUZZLE/GAME 1

### ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

# MOVING THROUGH THE HUNGRY BUTTERFLY BOOK

Help reinforce the story and build children's large motor skills with this butterfly activity!

### Follow These Steps

1. Start by standing in a circle. Spread out so you have plenty of room.
2. Show and read the first page of the story. Can you pretend to be an egg? Can you curl up your body to look like an egg?
3. Show and read the next page. Can you move like a caterpillar?
4. Now show and read the page with a picture of a cocoon. Can you make your body look like a cocoon?
5. Ask: Who remembers what came out of the cocoon? Pretend like you're coming out of the cocoon and then fly like a butterfly.



## PROP/PUZZLE/GAME 2 PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS

# HUNGRY CATERPILLAR ART STATIONS

Help extend children's learning about the life cycle of a caterpillar with these Art Stations!

### Supplies You'll Need

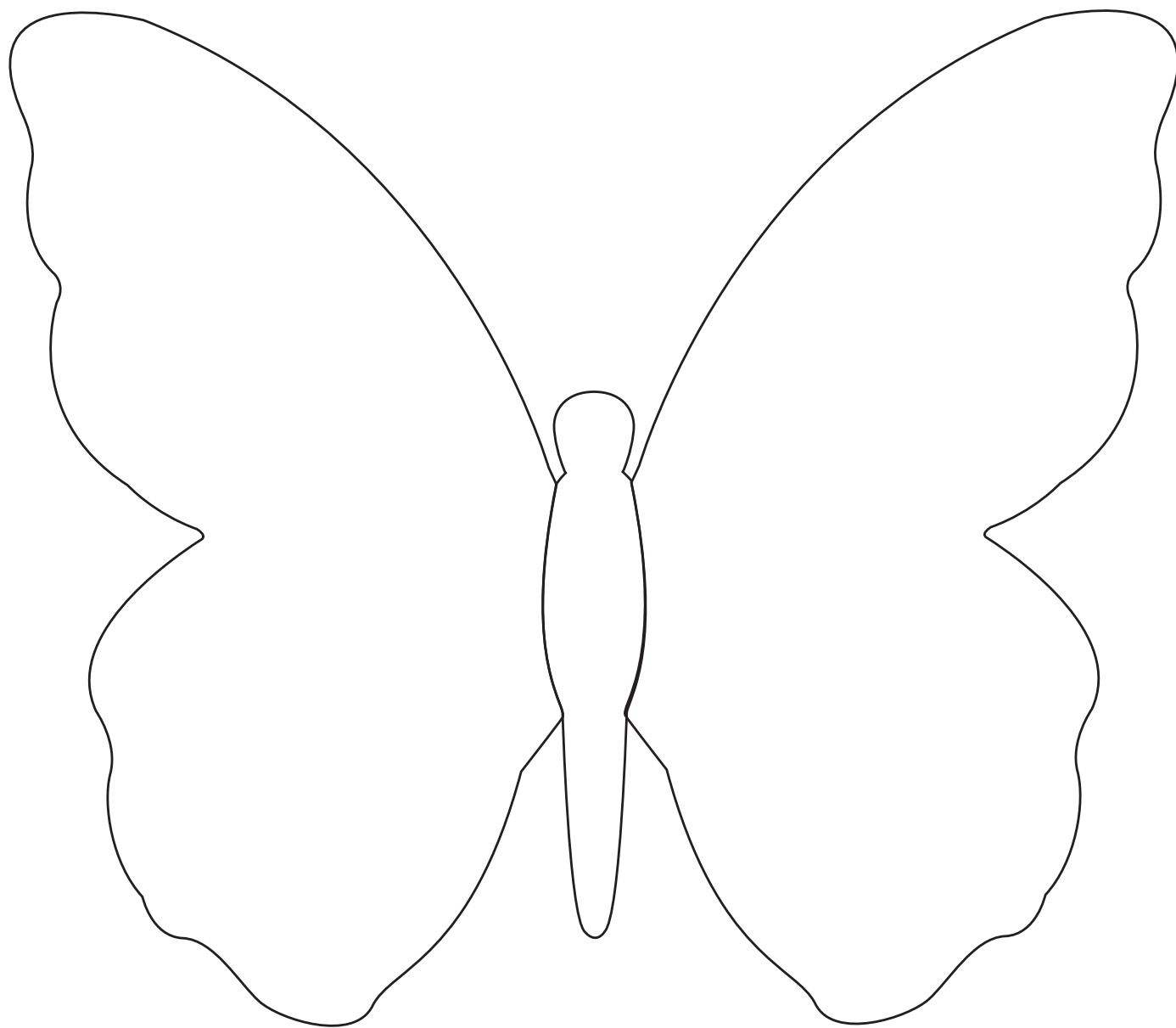
- Card Stock (2 per child)
- Caterpillar and butterfly templates
- Children's scissors
- Pencils
- Single hole punchers
- Green construction paper
- Multi-colored tissue paper
- Glue sticks
- Crayons
- Plastic bag(s) or other container

### Kit Assembly Instructions

1. Make one copy per child of each template on card stock.
2. Assemble materials in bags, writing the name of the project on the outside of the bag as follows:
  - **Leaf Project:** Green construction paper, a pairs of scissors, a hole punch and a pencil for each child
  - **Butterfly Project:** Butterfly template, pairs of scissors, colored tissue paper and glue sticks for each child
  - **Caterpillar Project:** Caterpillar template and crayons
3. Include the book and **Tips for the Reader** in the kit.

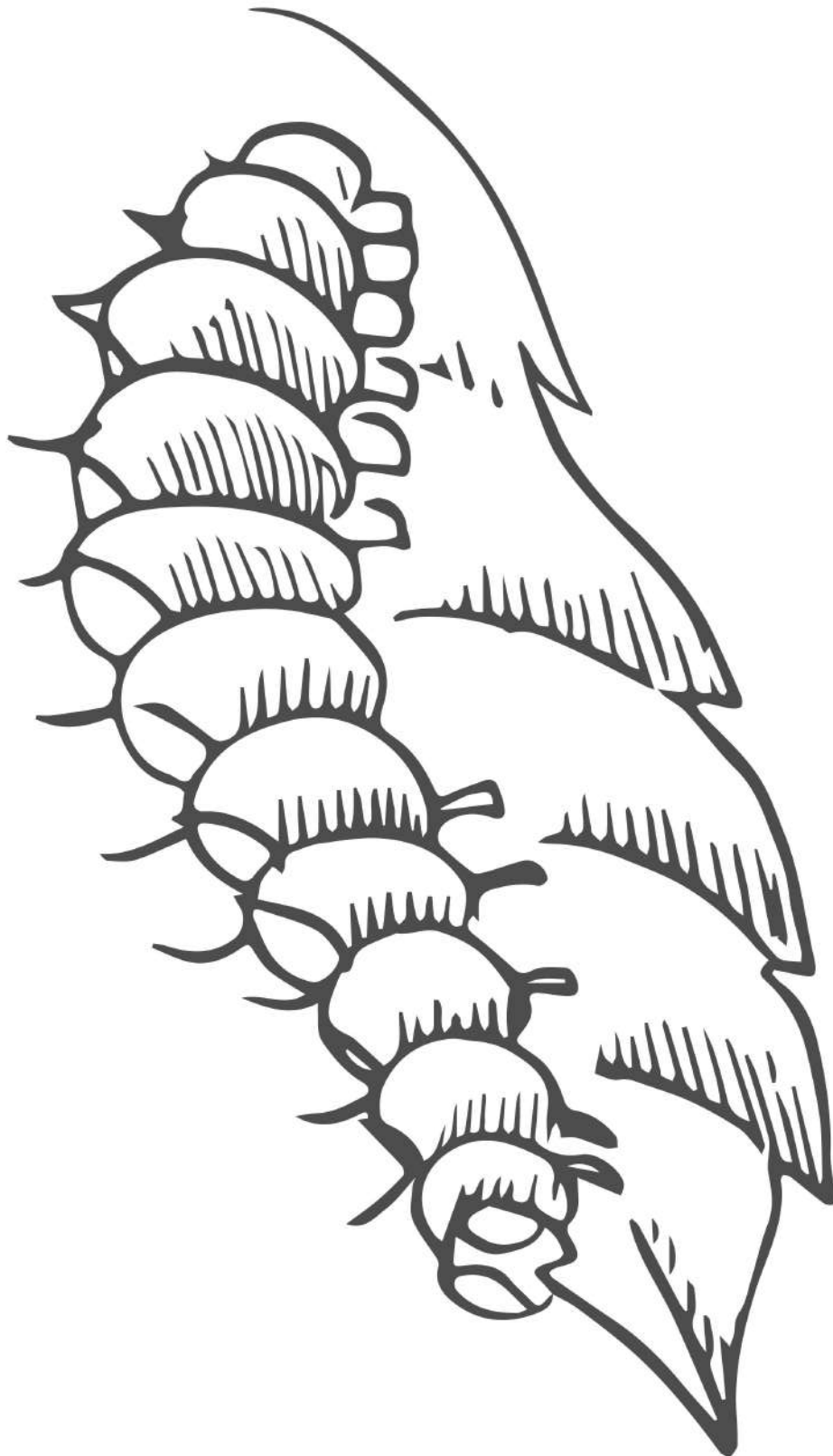
# PROP/PUZZLE/GAME 2

TEMPLATE



# PROP/PUZZLE/GAME 2

TEMPLATE





# HUNGRY CATERPILLAR ART STATIONS

Help extend children's learning about the life cycle of a caterpillar with these Art Stations!

## Follow These Steps

1. Divide children into 3 small groups.
2. Set up art stations, each with the following supplies (adjust numbers as needed):
  - Green construction paper, pairs of scissors, hole punchers and pencils. While at this station, children will draw a leaf, cut it out, and then punch holes in it.
  - Butterfly template, pairs of scissors, colored tissue paper and glue sticks. At this station, children will cut out the butterfly, tear small pieces of tissue paper, and glue them on the butterfly wings.
  - Caterpillar template and crayons. At this station, children will color the caterpillar.





## TAKE HOME ACTIVITY KIT 1

### PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS

# COLORING THE BUTTERFLY (AGES 0-2)

Help children develop fine motor skills and learn their colors with this butterfly coloring page!

#### Supplies You'll Need

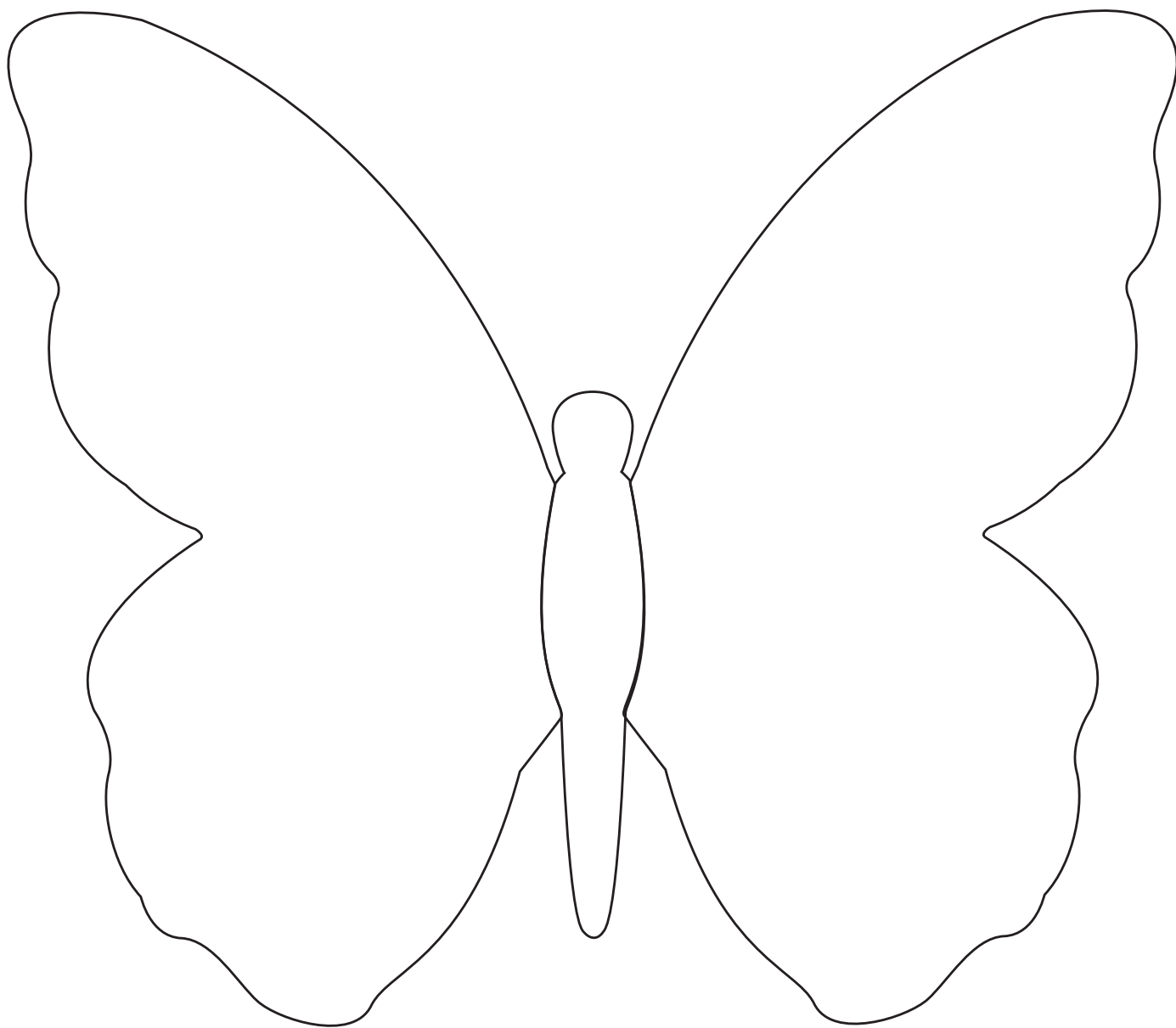
- Butterfly template
- White paper
- Individual boxes of crayons
- Plastic bag(s) or other container

#### Kit Assembly Instructions

1. Copy the butterfly template to send home with each child.
2. Include the book and **Tips for the Reader** in the kit.

# TAKE HOME ACTIVITY KIT 1

TEMPLATE





## TAKE HOME ACTIVITY KIT 1

### ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

# COLORING THE BUTTERFLY (AGES 0-2)

Help children develop fine motor skills and learn their colors with this butterfly coloring page!

### Follow These Steps

After reading the book, let the child color the butterfly. While coloring, talk about the colors the child chooses.



## TAKE HOME ACTIVITY KIT 2

### PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS

# COLOR THE CATERPILLAR (AGES 3-5)

Help children learn to recognize the names of colors in this activity!

### Supplies You'll Need

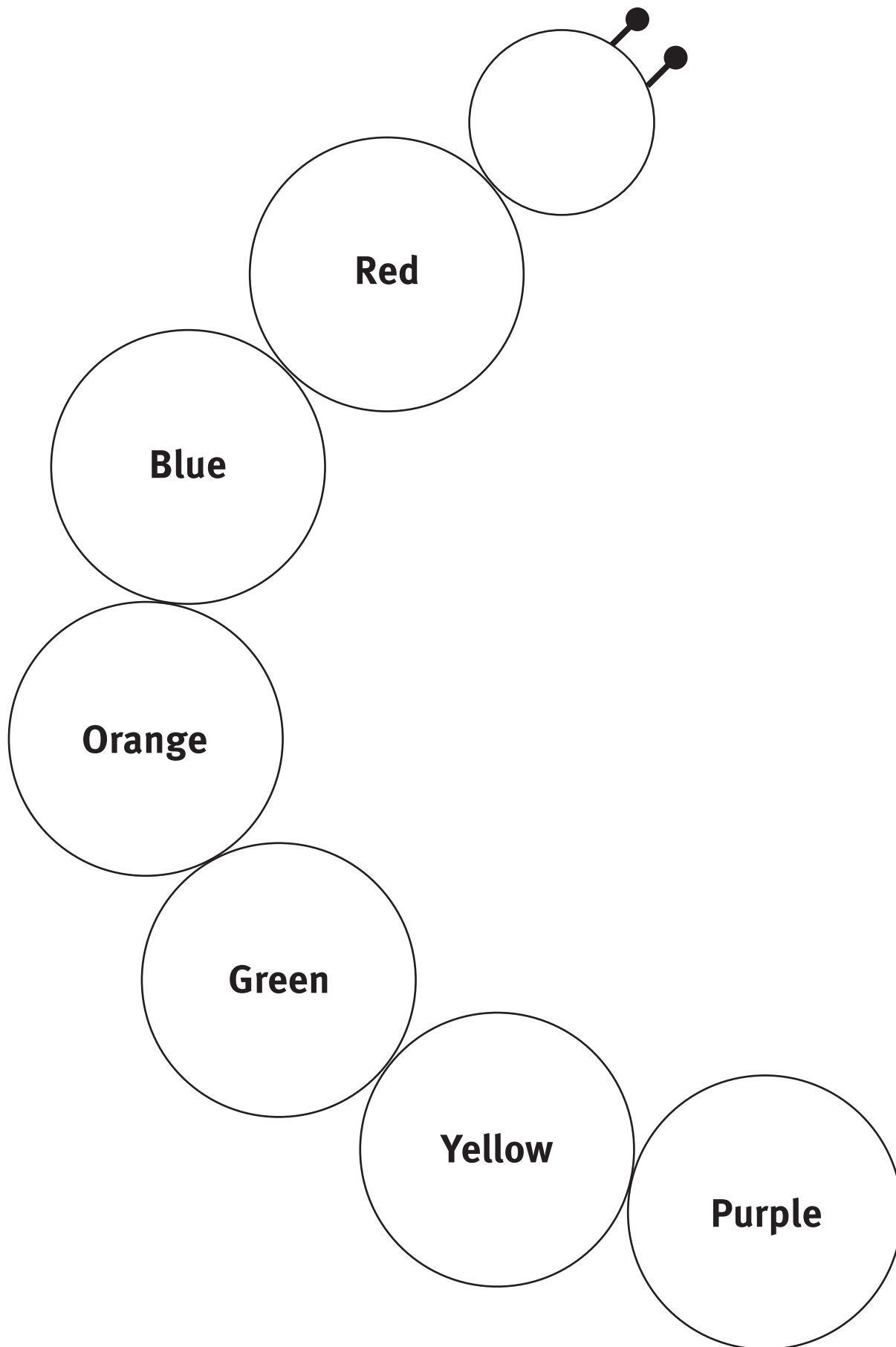
- Caterpillar template with names of colors in each section
- Copy paper
- Individual boxes of crayons
- Plastic bag(s) or other container

### Kit Assembly Instructions

1. Make a copy of the caterpillar template for each child.
2. Put a copy of the template in each bag along with a box of crayons.
3. Include the book and [Tips for the Reader](#) in the kit.

# TAKE HOME ACTIVITY KIT 2

TEMPLATE





## TAKE HOME ACTIVITY KIT 2

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

# COLOR THE CATERPILLAR (AGES 3-5)

Help children learn to recognize the names of colors in this activity!

### Follow These Steps

Ask the child to draw eyes and a mouth then color the caterpillar with the colors written in each circle.