



The Booklist Project

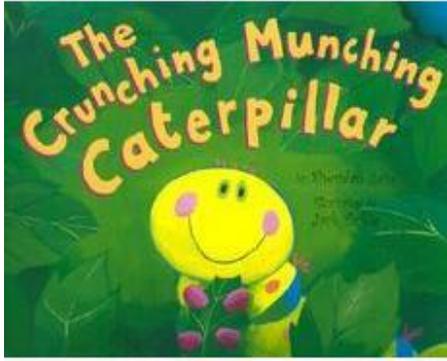
Focus: Themed Science Topic Booklist
"Butterflies"

Developed by: Lauren Paolino

Grade Span: K-5

SU I 2012

Each of the following books describes butterflies and their metamorphosis. Some books are in a narrative form, while others are in a non-fiction science format. Each book also contains links to various teaching resources, including lesson plans, activities, and recordings of the books. All of the books are selected for English Language Learners from kindergarten to fifth grade, and at various proficiency levels.



1. *The Crunching Munching Caterpillar* by Sheridan Cain

Cain, S. (2000). *The crunching munching caterpillar*. New York, NY: Scholastic. [ISBN 0-439-75052-0]

The Crunching Munching Caterpillar is a fictional story about a caterpillar who has always dreamed of flying. The caterpillar watches bumblebees and birds fly above him, and all he wants is to be like them. One day a butterfly lands on the leaf next to him and encourages the caterpillar to sleep. When caterpillar wakes, his dreams have come true and he has become a beautiful butterfly.

English language learners would benefit from this book because they would be able to relate with the caterpillar in terms of dreams they may have. This story may also help lower proficiency levels or younger students when learning about the butterfly's life cycle. Most of the text is based on everyday language, not specific academic content vocabulary. This can help introduce ELLs to the science idea of metamorphoses before frontloading any specific vocabulary for more in depth science sources.

WIDA Proficiency Level: Developing

Interest Level: Grades K - 2

Grade level Equivalent: 2.2

Lexile Measure[®]: 330L

DRA: 16-18

Guided Reading: J/K

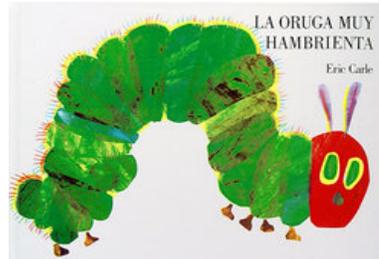
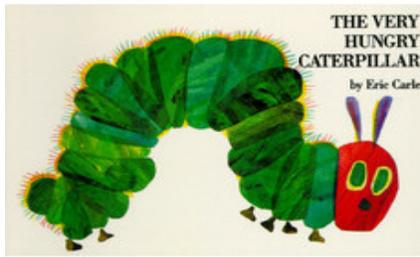
Available formats: hardcover, paperback, board book, CD/Audio

Available in Spanish - Mari la oruga glotona [ISBN 8-448-81535-1]

Teacher Resources:

<http://freepdfdb.org/pdf/preschool-educator-guide-butterfly-new-york-hall-of-4479873.html>

<http://ww2.valdosta.edu/~vmlewis/paint.html>



2. *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle

Carle, E. (1987). *The very hungry caterpillar*. New York, NY: Philomel Books. [ISBN 0-399-22690-7]

The Very Hungry Caterpillar is a fictional story based upon the life cycle of a caterpillar. The story begins with an egg on a leaf that hatches into a caterpillar. The caterpillar then eats his way through various foods, both healthy and unhealthy, until one day he finds himself in a cocoon. After pushing his way out of the cocoon, he emerges as a beautiful butterfly.

English language learners would benefit from this story in many ways. The vivid and detailed illustrations provide great picture and context clues to help an ELL read the story. This book also allows for sequencing activities, and decoding practice with certain sounds. For example, there are many words in the story that begin with the letter c but often sound like the letter k or s. Practice differentiating between the hard and soft c sounds would help an ELL progress in all four of the WIDA domains.

WIDA Proficiency Level: Emerging

Interest Level: Grades K - 2

Grade level Equivalent: 2.6

Lexile Measure®: 460L

DRA: 16

Guided Reading: J

Reading Level: 2.9

Available formats: hardcover, paperback, board book, CD/Audio

Available in Spanish - *La oruga muy hambrienta* [ISBN 0-399-22780-6]

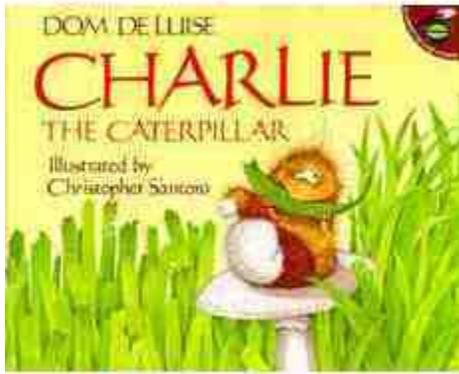
Available in Bilingual [ISBN 0-399-25605-9]

Teacher Resources:

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/lesson-plan/very-hungry-caterpillar-teaching-plan>

<http://www.teachingheart.net/veryhungrycaterpillar.html>

<http://www.eric-carle.com/events.py> (Eric Carle reading)



3. *Charlie the Caterpillar* by Dom De Luise

DeLuise, D., & Santoro, C. (1990). *Charlie the caterpillar*. New York, NY: Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers. [ISBN 0-671-69358-1]

Charlie the Caterpillar is a fictional story about the true meaning of friendship. When Charlie is born he is excited to see the world. As he meets new animals and tries to make friends, he is rejected because they think he ugly. Charlie learned the true meaning of friendship when he met another caterpillar that was being rejected just like he had been.

This story would be wonderful for English language learners, especially ELLs who may be struggling making friends because they feel like they are different. This story would work well in explaining the true meaning of friendship to them. ELLs would benefit from the picture clues and repetition as well while reading. The plot repeats as Charlie meets new friends. This story would be best for ELLs with a higher proficiency level because of the complex sentence structure, dialogue, and made up words (e.g. “giddadda here!”).

WIDA Proficiency Level: Developing/Expanding

Interest Level: Grades K – 2

Grade level Equivalent: 4.5

Lexile Measure[®]: 280L

DRA: 28

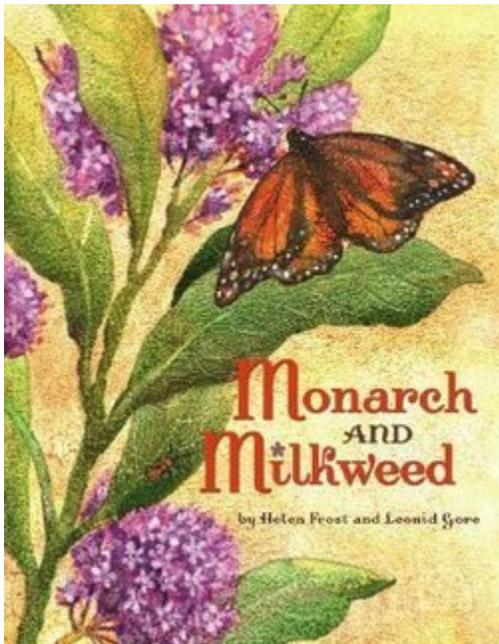
Reading Level: 2.9

Available formats: hardcover, paperback

Teacher Resources:

<http://www.preschool-plan-it.com/caterpillars-and-butterflies.html>

http://alex.state.al.us/lesson_view.php?id=5657



4. *Monarch and Milkweed* by Helen Frost and Leonid Gore

Frost, H., & Gore, L. (2008). *Monarch and milkweed*. New York, NY: Atheneum Books for Young Readers. [ISBN 1-4169-0085-3]

Monarch and Milkweed is a story of the migration of the monarch butterflies. Monarch butterflies migrate in order to find milkweed plants to lay their eggs on.

English language learners need to have background knowledge about the life cycle of butterflies, as well as some geographic knowledge of the world. The prose and complex sentence structure, along with the required background knowledge, make this book difficult for beginning ELLs. This book would be ideal for high Expanding and Bridging ELLs. However, the illustrations provide great picture and context clues for the reader.

WIDA Proficiency Level: Expanding/Bridging

Interest Level: K-3

Reading Level: 4.9

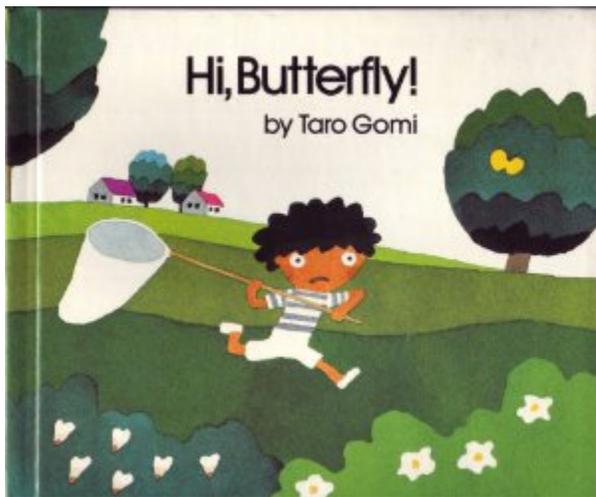
Lexile Measure[®]: 970L

Available formats: hardcover, paperback, DVD (2008-16 min.)

Teacher Resources:

<http://www.helenfrost.net/item.php?postid=24>

<http://klaxgangwebquest.weebly.com/individual-activities.html>



5. *Hi, Butterfly!* by Taro Gomi

Gomi, T. (1983). *Hi, butterfly!* New York, NY: William Morrow & Company. [ISBN 0-688-04137-X]

Hi, Butterfly! is a fictional, almost wordless story about a young boy who chases a butterfly through his yard, neighborhood, city, and even his own house.

English language learners will be able to relate to parts of the stories and make connections. The colorful illustrations and minimal text will help entering ELLs achieve success while reading. Also, this story enables students to make predictions on each page about what the little boy is going to catch. The little boy thinks it's a butterfly, but it never is until the end.

WIDA Proficiency Level: Entering

Interest Level: K-2

Lexile Measure[®]: Not Available

DRA: Not Available

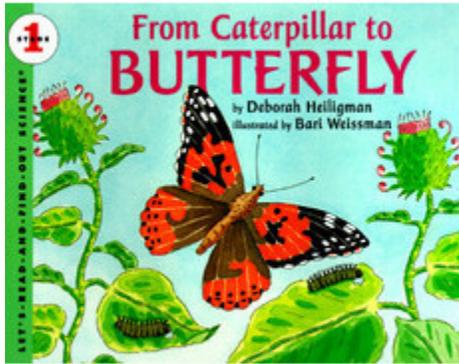
Guided Reading: Not Available

Available formats: hardcover

Teacher Resources:

<http://warriors.warren.k12.il.us/jenks/flutterfun.html>

<http://education.wichita.edu/classes/ci780s/Butterfly.htm>



6. *From Caterpillar to Butterfly* by Deborah Heiligman

Heiligman, D., & Weissman, B. (1996). *From caterpillar to butterfly*. New York, NY: HarperCollins. [ISBN 0-061-11975-X]

From Caterpillar to Butterfly is a nonfiction story about the metamorphosis of the Painted Lady Butterfly. The story begins with a classroom receiving a tiny caterpillar in a jar. The class observes the caterpillar and its different stages each and every day until one day it turns into a butterfly.

English language learners will benefit from this book because of the detailed and labeled illustrations. This book would work perfectly in a language experience approach where ELLs would actually experience having a caterpillar in their classroom and watch it grow and change over time. The book would serve as a frontloading tool or an additional source of information. Based on the compound and some complex sentence structures, Developing and higher ELLs would benefit most from this book.

WIDA Proficiency Level: Developing

Interest Level: Grades K - 2

Grade level Equivalent: 2.8

Lexile Measure[®]: 490L

DRA: 24

Guided Reading: K/L

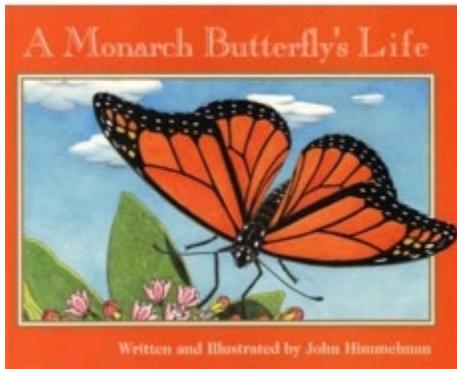
Reading Level: 2.9

Available formats: hardcover, paperback

Teacher Resources:

<http://new.thesolutionsite.com/solutionsite/data/11951/lesson2.html>

<http://www.siue.edu/MLTE/Thematic%20Units/Butterflies/Metamorphosis.htm>



7. *A Monarch Butterfly's Life* by John Himmelman

Himmelman, J. (1999). *A monarch butterfly's life*. New York, NY: Children's Press. [ISBN 0-516-21147-1]

A Monarch Butterfly's Life is a nonfiction story of the life of a monarch butterfly. The story has academic content vocabulary such as egg, caterpillar, larva, chrysalis, proboscis, nectar and more. However, these words are all included in the glossary at the end of the book.

Based on the simple sentence structure and academic content vocabulary, Developing ELLs and higher would benefit most from this text. The detailed illustrations help ELLs uncover the content specific vocabulary.

WIDA Proficiency Level: Developing

Interest Level: Grades K - 2

Grade level Equivalent: 2.9

Lexile Measure[®]: Not Available

DRA: 16-18

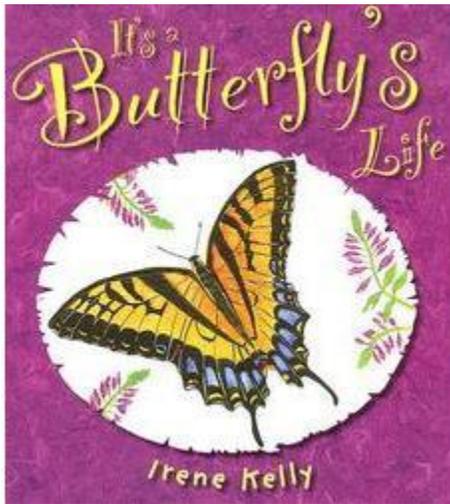
Guided Reading: I/J

Available formats: hardcover, paperback

Teacher Resources:

<http://insectsthematicunit.weebly.com/exploring-the-life-cycle-of-a-butterfly-through-movement.html>

http://www.loudounwildlife.org/Monarch_Campaign_Kids_Corner.html



8. *It's a Butterfly's Life* by Irene Kelly

Kelly, I. (2007). *It's a butterfly's life*. New York, NY: Holiday House. [ISBN 0-8234-1860-X]

It's a Butterfly's Life is a nonfiction book about butterflies. It is filled with facts, detailed illustrations, and labeled diagrams.

English language learners would benefit from the labeled illustrations and descriptive words. However, there is a lot of text and it is irregularly shaped. For example, the text looks like waves spreading across the pages. Also, the font is irregular and the labels are small print. With these text features and content specific vocabulary, Bridging ELLs and higher would benefit from this story.

WIDA Proficiency Level: High Expanding

Interest Level: Grades 3 - 5

Grade level Equivalent: 4.6

Lexile Measure[®]: 800L

DRA: 34

Guided Reading: O

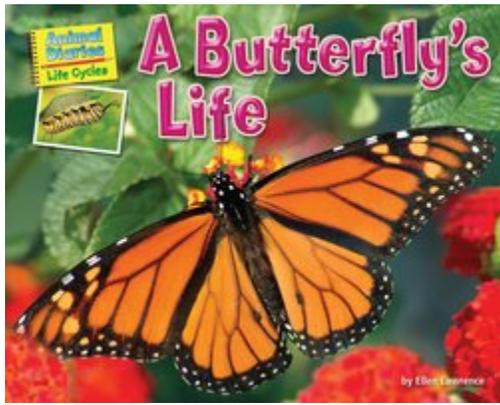
Reading Level: 4.7

Available formats: hardcover

Teacher Resources:

<http://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=10683>

<http://blog.richmond.edu/openwidelookinside/archives/category/life-science/page/3>



9. *A Butterfly's Life* by Ellen Lawrence

Lawrence, E. (2012). *A butterfly's life*. New York, NY: Bearport Pub. [ISBN 1-617-72413-0]

A butterfly's life is a nonfiction book that is written in a journal format by a young boy in the United States. The young boy saw two monarch butterflies mating in his backyard. The butterflies left eggs and he watches the metamorphosis that they go through as time goes on.

English language learners would benefit from the beautiful real life photographs throughout the book. The photographs bring the story to life and allow ELLs to make connections and relate the story to images they may have seen in other stories or in their own life. The book also has a science lab in the back that incorporates hands on science activities to engage ELLs and build background knowledge. There is also a glossary with wonderful images and definitions of science specific vocabulary.

WIDA Proficiency Level: Expanding

Interest Level: K-3

Reading Level: Not Available

Lexile Measure®: 740

DRA: 18

ATOS: 3.5

Guided Reading: K

Available formats: hardcover, ebook

Teacher Resources:

<http://www.bearportpublishing.com/animaldiaries/>

<http://bluehouseschool.blogspot.com/2013/06/life-science-week-26.html>

From Caterpillar to Butterfly



10. *From Caterpillar to Butterfly* by Gerald Legg

Legg, G., & Salariya, D. (1998). *From caterpillar to butterfly*. Danbury, CT: F. Watts. [ISBN 0-531-14493-3]

From Caterpillar to Butterfly is a nonfiction story describing the life cycle of a butterfly from the egg stage, all the way to the butterfly stage.

English language learners at the developing level would benefit from the detailed illustrations and the simple sentence structure. Although some of the sentences are extended, the structure is very basic. Also, the print is large and the pictures are all labeled. Another great feature in the book is the butterfly facts at the end and the glossary for content specific vocabulary.

WIDA Proficiency Level: Developing and higher

Interest Level: Grades K - 2

Grade level Equivalent: 2.7

Lexile Measure[®]: 430L

DRA: 20

Guided Reading: K/L

Reading Level: 2.7

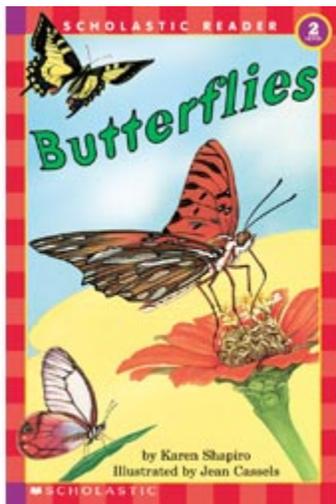
Available formats: hardcover, paperback

Teacher Resources:

<http://www.learnnc.org/lp/pages/3570>

<http://acme.highpoint.edu/~koonty04/EDU%20311%20Portfolio/Butterfly%20Cycle%20Lesson%20Plan.htm>

<http://education.sdsc.edu/caterpillartobutterfly.html>



11. *Butterflies* by Karen Shapiro

Shapiro, K., & Cassels, J. (2001). *Butterflies*. New York, NY: Scholastic. [ISBN 0-439-20636-7]

Butterflies is a nonfiction story of the metamorphosis that butterflies undergo. The rhyming story tells the journey that an egg goes through in order to become a beautiful butterfly.

English language learners would benefit from the rhyming and easy to read sentence structure within the story. There are very few content specific academic words, other than the four stages. With the rhyming, picture clues, and context clues, emerging ELLs would be able to begin reading this story.

WIDA Proficiency Level: Emerging/Developing

Interest Level: Grades K – 2

Grade level Equivalent: 1.9

Lexile Measure®: 190L

DRA: 16-18

Guided Reading: I/J

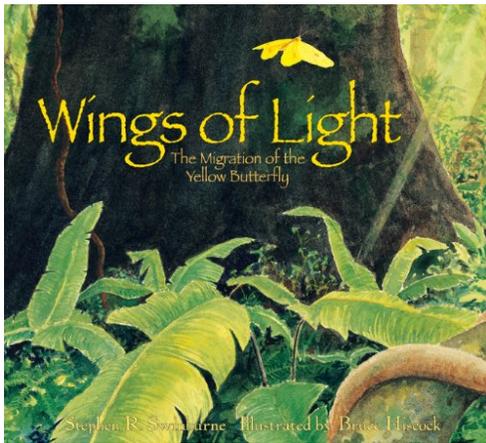
Reading Level: 2.0

Available formats: hardcover, paperback

Teacher Resources:

<http://www.ltl.appstate.edu/436/techports02/morgan/artifacts/ButterflyLifeCycleLesson.html>

<http://millyart.blogspot.com/2007/11/lesson-plan-life-cycle-of-butterfly.html>



12. *Wings of Light: The Migration of the Yellow Butterfly* by Stephen R. Swinburne

Swinburne, S. R., & Hiscock, B. (2006). *Wings of light: The migration of the yellow butterfly*. Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mills Press. [ISBN 1-590-78082-5]

Wings of Light: The Migration of the Yellow Butterfly is a story of the migration of butterflies from the Yucatan rain forest to as far as North America (even New England).

English language learners need to have background knowledge about geography of the world, or that information needs to be frontloaded. There is a map in the book that shows the migration, but students need to be familiar with a general map in order to understand how far the journey is. The beautiful illustrations provide wonderful visual supports to the text. Also the complex sentence structure and detailed descriptive words appeal to ELLs at a Bridging level specifically.

WIDA Proficiency Level: Bridging

Interest Level: 3-5

Reading Level: Not Available

Lexile Measure®: Not Available

DRA: Not Available

Guided Reading: Not Available

Available formats: hardcover

Teacher Resources:

<http://www.essentiallearningproducts.com/butterflies>

<http://www.brucehiscock.com/wingsoflight.html>



13. *The Butterfly Hunt* by Yoshi

Yoshi. (1990). *The butterfly hunt*. Saxonville, MA: Picture Book Studio. [ISBN 0-887-08137-1]

The Butterfly Hunt is a fictional story about a little boy who goes on a journey to capture a butterfly. However, once he captures the butterfly, he decides to let it go. The story is written by Yoshi, a famous Japanese illustrator and textile/fashion designer. Yoshi uses a combination of painting and batik on silk which is an Oriental technique.

English language learners that are entering would be able to begin reading with this almost wordless text. Each page has very few words or phrases, if any. There are a select few pages that have a sentence, but the words are not content specific. Also, the story has unique cultural features throughout it that are specific to Japanese culture such as the type of illustrations.

WIDA Proficiency Level: Entering

Interest Level: Grades K-5

Reading Level: Pre-primer

Lexile Measure[®]: Not Available

DRA: Not Available

Guided Reading: Not Available

Available formats: hardcover

Teacher Resources:

http://insected.arizona.edu/lesson_09/lplan.htm

<http://ed.sc.edu/ite/dickey/Gerard/HTMLPR~1.htm>

REACH. INSPIRE. CONNECT.



The Booklist Project

A Project of the
M.Ed. In TESL Program,



Feinstein School of Education and Human
Development
Rhode Island College

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