

Middle School Lesson 5

Get Ready for Reading Day



Students will practice the skills used in reading to young children.

Essential Questions for Students

- How do read aloud strategies help listeners gain more from a story?

Outcomes

- Students will gain confidence reading aloud to young children.

Targeted Content Standards

- Language Arts – Standard 8
Uses listening and speaking strategies for different purposes.
- Life Skills – Working with Others – Standard 14
Displays effective interpersonal communication skills.

Timeline

- One class period. More if students need additional practice to feel comfortable reading on October 8.

Advanced Preparation/Materials Needed

- Multiple copies of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* or other Eric Carle books. A complete list of his books can be found in the Resource Section.

Lesson

- Ask the class what they believe their role is going to be on Read for the Record day, October 8, and write their responses on the board.
- Review their answers. Ensure that students understand that they will be reading aloud to young children and helping them celebrate reading.
- Ask about any concerns your class may have about **Read for the Record** day. Reassure students that this day is about having fun and celebrating reading.
- Explain to students that they are going to be reading to the preschoolers/Kindergarteners and you are going to model reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Point out to students that this is a shared experience. Part of sharing a book is talking about it as well as reading the story. Encourage students to pay attention to how you ask questions to engage the listener and encourage conversation.

Example read aloud questions to model:

- Have you read this story before?
- What do you think this story will be about?
- What do you know about caterpillars?
- What do you think caterpillars like to eat? What do you like to eat?
- Do you like apples? Plums? Oranges? etc.

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Continued

- Have you seen a cocoon before?
- What comes out of a cocoon?
- What do you think the caterpillar did after he became a butterfly?
- If you were the caterpillar what would you have eaten?
- Ask for any additional questions or concerns.
- Let students break into teams and practice reading aloud and asking questions to each other.
- Send in pictures! Pictures of your Read for the Record event can be sent to servicelearning@pearsonfoundation.org.

Extension Activities

- Work with other books by Eric Carle as well.
- Establish a regular time for the class to read to younger students.
- Talk about mentor programs with your students and have them investigate opportunities for them to be mentors.

Accommodations/Modifications

- Give students ample time to practice reading the story before October 8.

Family Connection

- Encourage students to practice reading to a younger family member.
- Have students ask their family members, neighbors, teachers or coaches which authors they enjoy reading and why.