



Unit 3: Awesome Animals

Week 4: Ten Little Caterpillars



LENGTH OF AT-HOME ACTIVITY: 10 to 15 minutes

YOU'LL NEED: The book *Ten Little Caterpillars* by Bill Martin, Jr. and a pencil or crayon

ACTIVITY STEPS:

TALK about *Ten Little Caterpillars*, helping your preschooler make predictions about the story.

ASK QUESTIONS. Ask and wait 3-5 seconds for an answer. Example questions:

What does the author do?

What does the illustrator do?

What do you think this book is going to be about by looking at the pictures?

What is a caterpillar?

SING Ten Little Monkeys with your preschooler!

*Ten little monkeys jumping on the bed!
1 fell off and bumped his head.*

*Mama called the doctor and the doctor said,
"No more monkeys jumping on the bed!"*

(Subtract one monkey each time you sing the first line until there are "no more monkeys!")

READ *Ten Little Caterpillars* with your preschooler. Have fun!

STOP and discuss caterpillars. Ask questions like:

What is a caterpillar? How does a caterpillar turn into a butterfly?

Where do caterpillars live? What do they eat?

COUNT with your preschooler. You can count along with the story or count other pictures like leaves or apples. See if your preschooler can help you count backwards!

SOUND OUT words on the page. Try familiar words such as "the," "up," and "ten." Help your preschooler with bigger words like "little," "flower," and "butterfly."

DISCUSS shapes with your preschooler. What shapes do you see in the collage that illustrator Lois Ehlert uses?

DEFINE any new words you come across in the story for your preschooler!

FOLLOW UP ACTIVITY: Keep the counting going! What else can you count with your preschooler around the house?

WRITING EXTENSION: On the back of this page, help your preschooler write and illustrate what happened to the eleventh caterpillar!