

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!

By Mo Willems

Don't
Let the
Pigeon
Drive
the
Bus!



words and pictures by mo willems

The bus driver in this story leaves his bus under the watchful eyes of the reader with one simple request—don't let the pigeon drive the bus! But the pigeon is determined to get his way.

★ Literacy ★

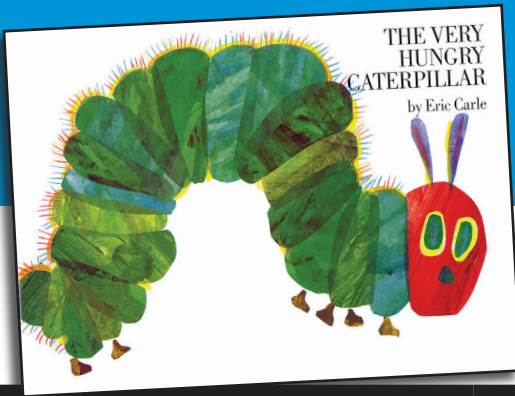
During the story, youngsters have the important job of keeping an eye on the bus. This requires them to tell the pigeon “No!” when he continually asks if he can drive the bus. These speech bubble props are just what they need to help them out! Give each child a speech bubble cutout. Help him write “No!” on it; then tape a craft stick to its back. During a rereading of the story, direct students to hold up their speech bubbles as they answer the pigeon’s appeals.

★ Art ★

Since the pigeon does not get to drive the bus, what will he do next? Youngsters decide what the pigeon’s next escapade will be during this activity. Give each child a sheet of white paper and have her make a light-blue handprint on it with her fingers together and thumb extended. (The fingers and palm are the pigeon’s body, and the thumb is the neck and head.) Invite her to add details to the pigeon, such as an eye, a beak, a wing, and legs. Then draw a large thought bubble near the pigeon’s head and have her draw and describe the pigeon’s next escapade.

★ Story Discussion ★

- Have you ever wanted to do something so much that you asked to do it over and over again? What happened?
- Revisit the pages that show the pigeon having a tantrum. Do you think the pigeon is making a good choice? Discuss some better choices he could make.
- The pigeon’s emotions change throughout the story. What different emotions does he demonstrate? Do you think you would feel the same as the pigeon if you were in the same situation?
- A large truck appears at the end of the story. What do you think the pigeon will do next?



The Very Hungry Caterpillar

By Eric Carle

Throughout the week, this voracious caterpillar consumes a great quantity of food. Suddenly the caterpillar is no longer little, and he's ready for the next stage in his life!

★ Literacy ★

This story innovation is sure to delight your little ones! Write on chart paper "The very hungry preschoolers ate some food. They ate..." Then prompt each child to name a food as you write it on the chart paper. Next, have each child draw and cut out a picture of his food. Help him punch a hole in the middle of his drawing so it resembles the foods in the story. Then display the foods around the chart paper.

★ Art ★

This artwork is covered with very hungry caterpillars! Encourage each youngster to tear leaf shapes from green paper. Help her punch a hole in each leaf and then glue the leaf to a colorful sheet of paper. Next, prompt her to glue small pieces of green pipe cleaner (caterpillar bodies) to the leaves. Then have her attach small red pom-poms (heads) to the bodies.

★ Story Discussion ★

- What does it mean when someone has a big appetite? Do you think the caterpillar has a big appetite? Do you have a big appetite?
- Look at the egg on the first page of the story. Where did the egg come from? What do you think will happen to the butterfly at the end of the story?
- Have you ever had a stomachache? What made you feel better?