



## **The Very Hungry Texas Caterpillar**

Adapted from South Dakota Ag in the Classroom

**Audience:** K-2

**Activity Length:** 1 Hour 30 Minutes

### **TEKS:**

- ELA:
  - Kindergarten: K.3C, K.5E, K.5F, K.5H, K.6B, K.6C, K.6D, K.7C, K.7D, K.8Dii, K.12D
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: 1.6E, 1.6F, 1.6H, 1.7C, 1.7D, 1.7E, 1.8C, 1.8D, 1.9Diii
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: 2.6E, 2.6F, 2.6H, 2.7C, 2.7D, 2.7E, 2.8C
- Science:
  - Kindergarten: K.1F, K.13A
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: 1.1F
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: 2.1F, 2.13A
- Social Studies:
  - Kindergarten: K.3C, K.5B, K.14A, K.14D
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: 1.3B, 1.4B, 1.7A, 1.16D, 1.17D
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: 2.3A, 2.16F

### **Objectives:**

Kindergarten:

- identify the basic need of food;
- explain the differences between the needs and wants of the character;
- explain how agriculture can help meet basic human needs.

1<sup>st</sup> Grade:

- create and use simple maps.
- locate their community on a Texas map and compare its location to the area's commodities that are grown in Texas.
- identify examples of goods and services,
- explain how the commodities in the story are exchanged.
- identify the role of markets in exchange of the commodities in the story.

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:

- interpret information on maps and globes using basic map elements.
- create a map to show the location the commodities in the story are grown.
- locate places of significance for agriculture.
- examine the information presented in The Very Hungry Texas Caterpillar about Texas regions and their agriculture production.

### **Materials Needed:**



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- *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle
- Texas map
- Guided reading questions
- Very Hungry Caterpillar Adventure Worksheet
- Venn diagram
- Book Building Activity:
  - Book pages printed on card stock, cotton balls, green washable ink or green stamp pads, black marker, soybeans, rice, corn, wheat, pecans, hay/straw/raffia ribbon, clear plastic wrap, small jewelry size clear plastic bags, hole punch, 1" book rings, 5 medium green pompom balls, wiggle eyes
- Bag Butterfly Activity:
  - Snack plastic bags, tissue paper, gift shred, confetti, pipe cleaners cut in half

### **Procedure:**

#### **Day 1:**

#### **Whole Group (10-20 Minutes):**

1. Read Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* with your students.
2. Discuss the foods that the caterpillar eats and where we would find these foods.
3. While reading, refer to the Guided Reading Questions attached to the end of this lesson.
4. Using the Texas Map entitled "The Very Hungry Caterpillar's Food Map of Texas," discuss where in Texas you could find the food eaten by the caterpillar:
  - a. Wheat: Various regions in Texas
  - b. Dairy: The Panhandle
  - c. Oranges: South Texas
  - d. Sugar Cane: South Texas
  - e. Pears: East Texas
  - f. Watermelon: Southeast Texas
  - g. Cucumbers: Southwest Texas
  - h. Strawberries: Central Texas
5. Locate where you live on the map.

#### **Independent/Small Group Activity (10 Minutes):**

1. Have students brainstorm what foods the caterpillar might eat if he lived where you live.
2. Students create their own version of the story as if the caterpillar were living in their home eating the students' favorite foods. (See attached activity)
3. Discuss as a class why some foods were not found on the map.



4. Discuss why the caterpillar got sick and make connection with own experience.

**Day 2:**

**Whole Group (10-20 Minutes):**

1. Read The Very Hungry Texas Caterpillar.
2. Discuss the foods the caterpillar eats and where we would find these foods in Texas.
3. While reading, refer to the Guided Reading Questions page attached.
4. Using the Texas map, locate where the commodities the caterpillar eats are found in Texas.
5. Compare and contrast the two versions of the story using the attached Venn Diagram.

**Independent/Small Group Activity (45 Minutes):**

1. Students will create their own Texas Caterpillar books. This can be done individually or in small groups.
2. Create page "stations" at small groups of tables OR create baggies with supplies for students to create their books. Each page should take approximately 3-5 minutes to complete.
  - a. Station 1: Pages 1-3
  - b. Station 2: Pages 4-6
  - c. Station 3: Pages 7-9
  - d. Station 4: Pages 10-12
  - e. Station 5: Pages 13-16
  - f. \*\*Come back as a whole group to complete remaining pages.

**Activity Directions:**

**Book Building**

1. Book Cover: Glue on the five pom-poms to make a caterpillar. Add wiggle eyes, legs, and antennae.
2. Page 1: Tear a small piece of cotton ball. Glue onto a leaf to represent the egg.
3. Page 2: Use green ink to make 6 fingerprints, touching and side by side. Using a black marker, draw the face of the caterpillar along with its antennae.
4. Page 3: Add your fingerprint caterpillar.
5. Page 4: Add your fingerprint caterpillar.
6. Page 5: Add your fingerprint caterpillar.
7. Page 6: Add your fingerprint caterpillar.



8. Page 7: Add your fingerprint caterpillar.
9. Page 8: Add your fingerprint caterpillar.
10. Page 9: Attach the soybeans to the empty rectangle. Glue hay onto the hay bale. Add your fingerprint caterpillar.
11. Page 10: Attach corn to the empty rectangle. Glue wheat in the bushel basket. Add your fingerprint caterpillar.
12. Page 11: Glue a piece of cotton in the left rectangle. Glue rice to the right rectangle. Add your fingerprint caterpillar.
13. Page 12: Attach pecans to the rectangle. Add your fingerprint caterpillar upside down.
14. Page 13: Using green ink and your fingerprints, create a big caterpillar.
15. Wrap plastic wrap around a cotton ball to create a chrysalis. Glue to page.
16. Page 15: Attach a Bag Butterfly and any embellishments to the page (See Directions next page).
17. Page 16: Use the map on page 6 to glue actual commodities or pictures of commodities in the area of the state where they are mentioned in the book.

### **Bag Butterfly**

1. Place small pieces of tissue, wrapping paper or confetti in a plastic bag.
2. Seal and fold over the top tab.
3. Pinch together vertically in the center of the bag.
4. Bend the pipe cleaner in half and twist around the bag.
5. The ends of the pipe cleaners make the antennae for the butterfly.

### **Book Assembly**

1. Fold the book in half and staple it together.

### **Modifications to Book Activity:**

1. Students put a fingerprint caterpillar on every other page rather than every page.



## **Guided Reading Questions**

### **Pre-Reading**

1. Review *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*.
2. What do people and animals need to grow and live?
3. The caterpillar in the story wanted to eat so much food he got sick. Did he need that much food? Why or why not?
4. Discuss how some foods in the story are not grown in Texas.
5. What could be some similarities and differences between the Caterpillar and the Texas Caterpillar?

### **Beginning**

1. What is the caterpillar's problem or conflict?
2. Where does the caterpillar live in the story?
3. How could living in Texas change the story?

### **Middle**

1. Where is the Rio Grande Valley on the Texas map?
2. What is the difference between a carrot and a blueberry?
3. What might happen if the caterpillar stops eating now?
4. Tell two ways a peanut and a pecan are alike. Tell two ways they are different.
5. What shape is the picture of the bale of hay?
6. Why did the caterpillar have a stomachache?

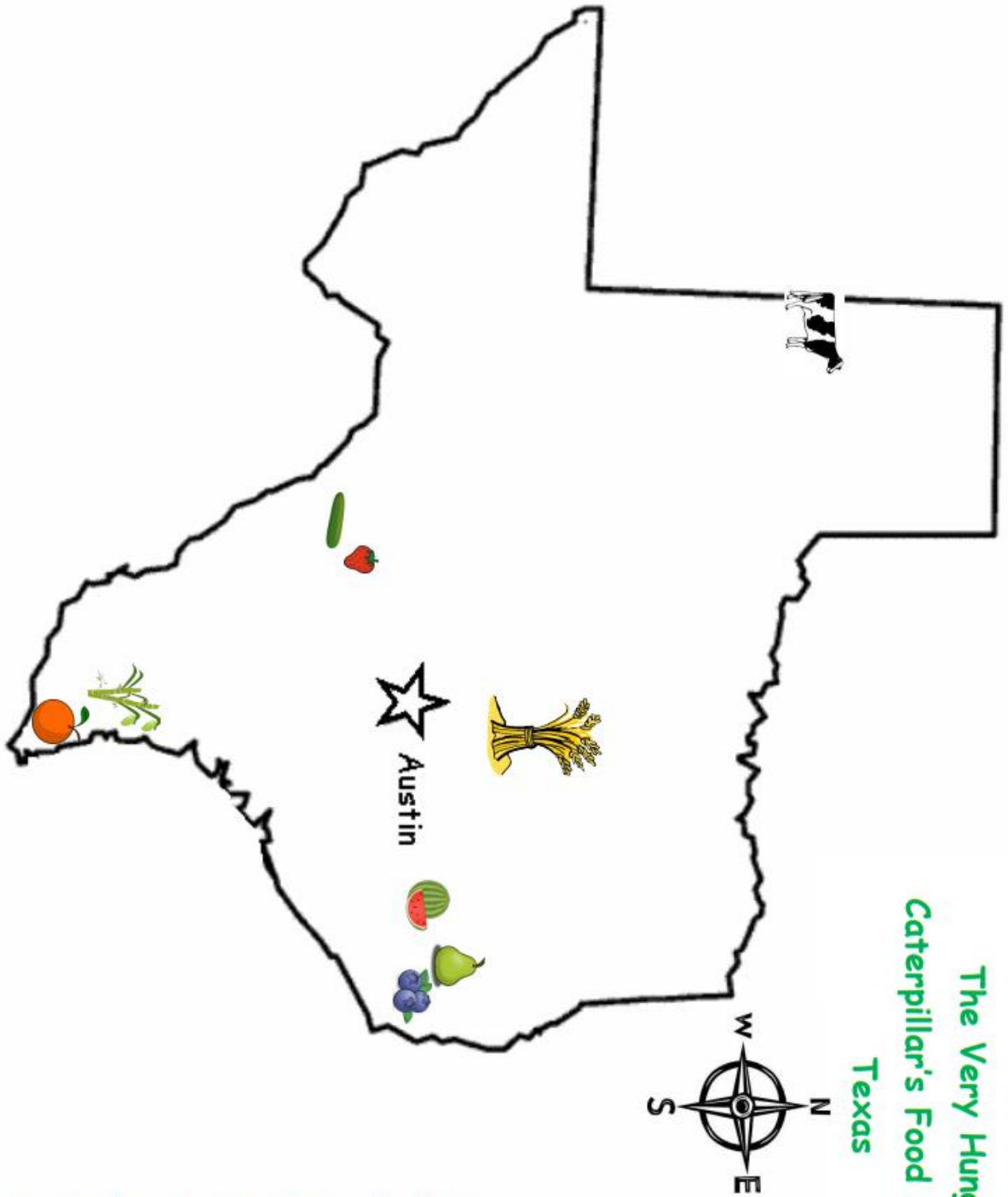
### **After**

1. What do you think the caterpillar learned about eating too much?
2. Compare and contrast *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and *The Very Hungry Texas Caterpillar* (attached).
3. The caterpillars are both eating crops from farmers' farms. How do people use these crops? How do we get them?
4. If a farmer is growing the food that we eat, he is providing what? (goods)
5. How does where the caterpillar lives affect his conflict?
6. Who grows the food the caterpillar was eating throughout the story?
7. Name two similarities of ALL the food that the caterpillar ate throughout the story. (plants, start as seeds, have a life cycle, etc.)
8. Review North, South, East, West, etc. on the Texas map on the following page.



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# The Very Hungry Caterpillar's Food Map of Texas

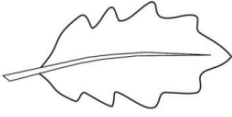






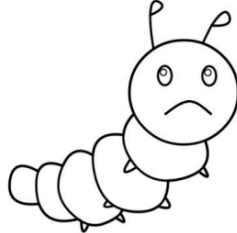





Symbol	Product
	Dairy
	Wheat
	Strawberries
	Cucumbers
	Sugar Cane
	Oranges
	Watermelon
	Pears
	Blueberries



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

The Very Hungry Caterpillar ate many foods before forming his chrysalis and becoming a butterfly. The Very Hungry Caterpillar would eat different types of foods in different parts of the world. What would the caterpillar eat if he lived in your house? Write your own Very Hungry Caterpillar adventure as if he were eating your favorite foods in your home. Illustrate your story.

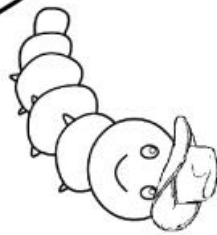
<p>One Sunday morning at _____'s house, a CATERPILLAR popped out of an egg on the leaf of a plant in the garden.</p> 	<p>On Monday, he ate ONE _____. But, he was still hungry.</p> 	<p>On Tuesday, he ate TWO _____. But, he was still hungry.</p> 	<p>On Wednesday he ate THREE _____. But, he was still hungry.</p> 
<p>On Thursday, he ate FOUR _____. But, he was still hungry.</p> 	<p>On Friday, he ate FIVE _____. But, he was still hungry.</p> 	<p>On Saturday he ate _____.</p> <p>_____.</p> <p>_____.</p> <p>_____.</p> 	<p>That night, he had a stomachache.</p> 
<p>Now he wasn't hungry anymore, and he wasn't a little caterpillar anymore. He was a _____, _____ caterpillar!</p> 	<p>That night, he built a small house, called a CHRYSALIS, around himself. He stayed in the chrysalis for more than TWO WEEKS! Then he nibbled a hole into the chrysalis, pushed his way out, and...</p> 	<p>He was a BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLY!</p> 	

NOTE: Another way to utilize this activity could be cutting the squares out and tasking students with putting the story in chronological order. Students will then create their own story after putting the pieces in order.



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The Very Hungry Caterpillar vs. The Texas Caterpillar







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# The Very Hungry TEXAS Caterpillar



Adapted from *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*  
by Eric Carle

AND

South Dakota Ag in the Classroom.

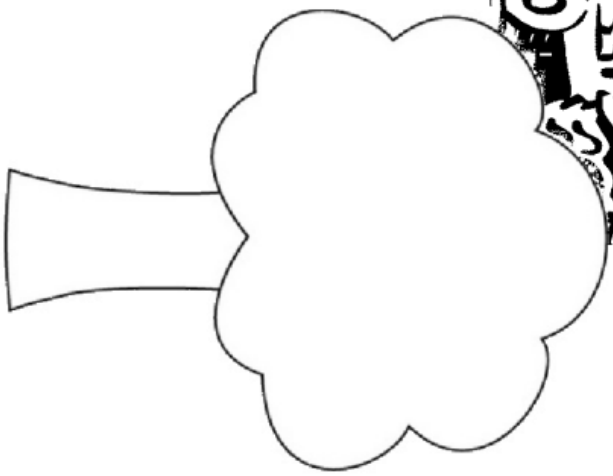
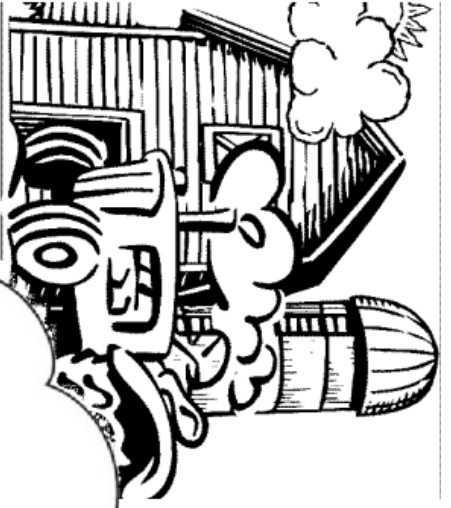


# Caterpillar

Illustrated by \_\_\_\_\_



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On a Texas farm,  
a little EGG lay on a leaf.

# The Very Hungry Texas Caterpillar, Feast Through Texas















- County Key
- 1-Gillespie County
  - 2-Hidalgo County
  - 3-Geimes County



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On the map on the next page, draw symbols showing where the caterpillar travelled to eat his Texas feast.

# Key

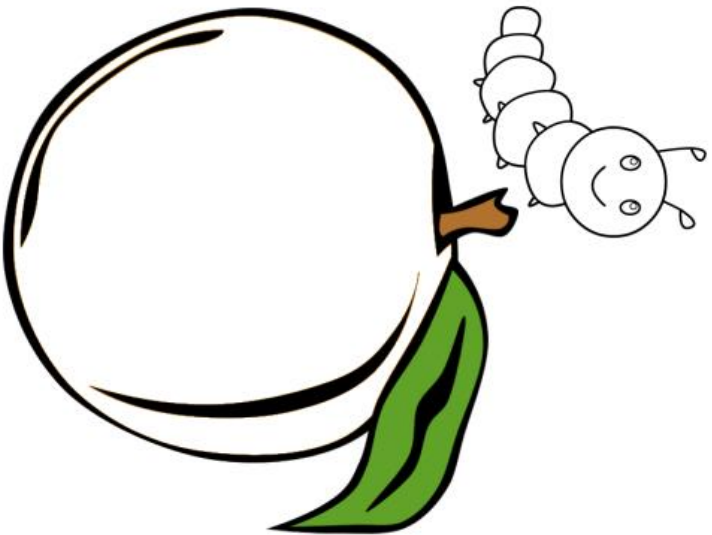
	orange		hay
	peach		wheat
	carrots		corn
	blue-berries		cotton
	pea-nuts		rice
	soy-beans		pecans

One Sunday morning, the warm sun came up and **-POP!-** out of the egg came a tiny and very hungry **CATERPILLAR.**





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On Monday, he ate **ONE**  
Rio Grande Valley  
**ORANGE.**  
But, he was still hungry.



He was a **BEAUTIFUL** Texas  
**BUTTERFLY!**



That night, he built a small house, called a

**CHRYSAALIS**, around himself.

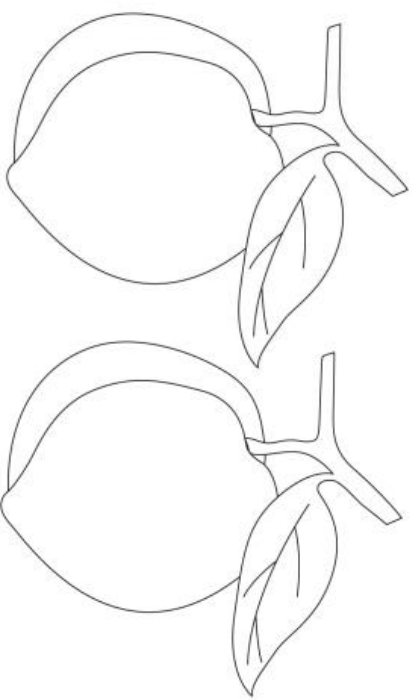


He stayed in the chrysalis for more than **TWO WEEKS!**

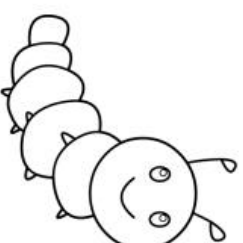
Then he nibbled a hole into the chrysalis, pushed his way out, and...

On Tuesday, he ate **TWO** Gillespie County

**PEACHES.**

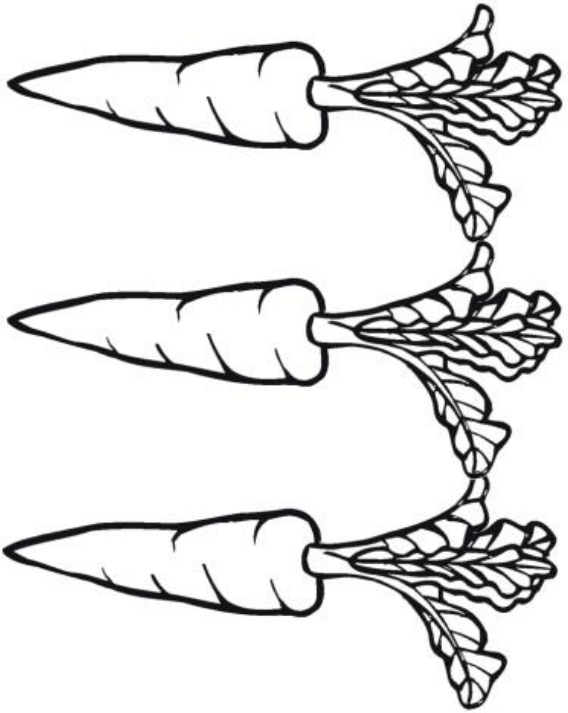


But, he was still hungry.



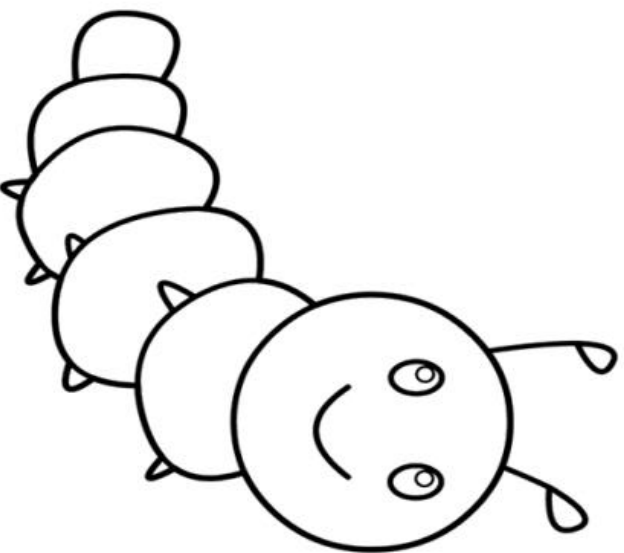


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On Wednesday, he ate  
**THREE** Hidalgo County  
**CARROTS.**  
But, he was still hungry.

He was a **BIG, FAT**  
caterpillar!





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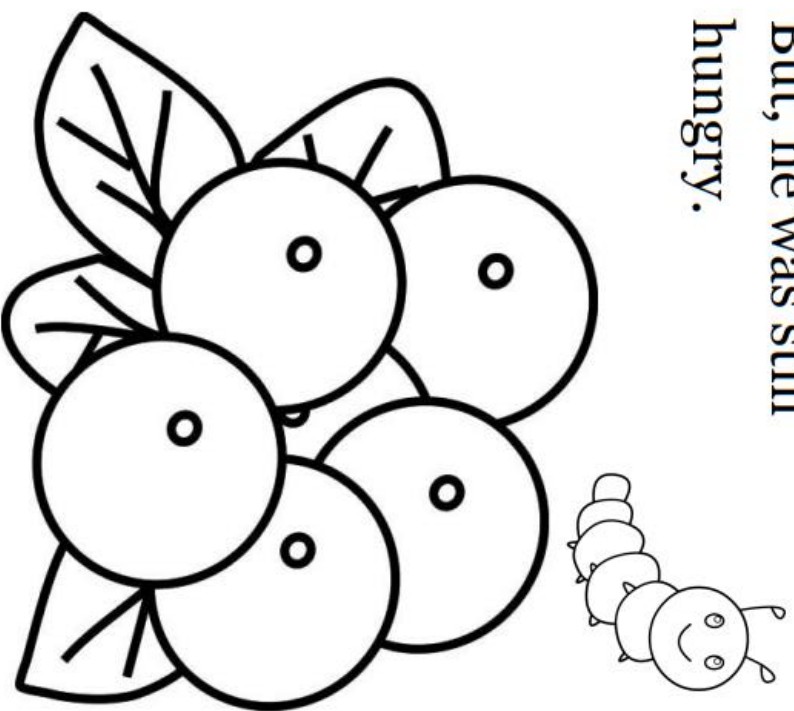


Now he wasn't hungry anymore, and he wasn't a little caterpillar anymore.

On Thursday, he ate **FOUR** East Texas

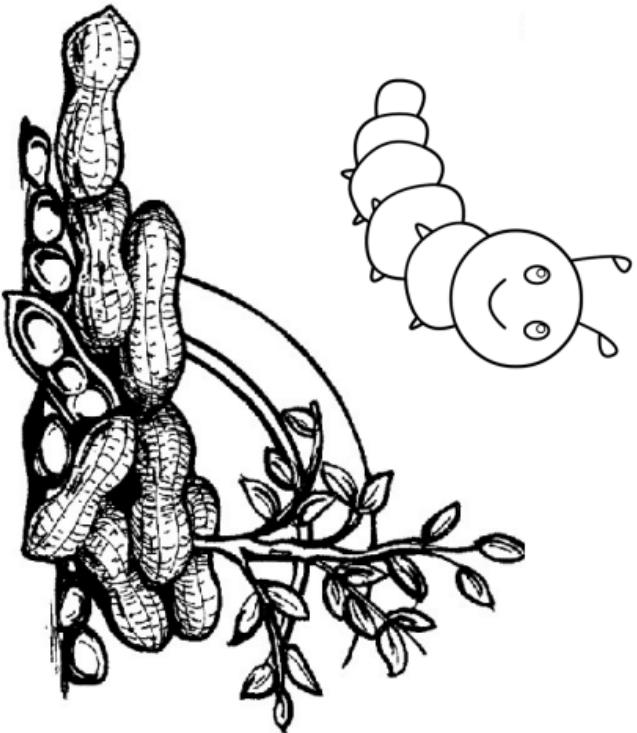
**BLUEBERRIES.**

But, he was still hungry.

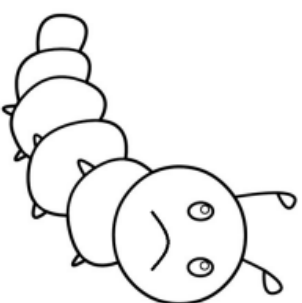




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On Friday, he ate **FIVE**  
Gaines County **PEANUTS**.  
But, he was still hungry.



That night,  
he had a  
**STOMACHACHE!**



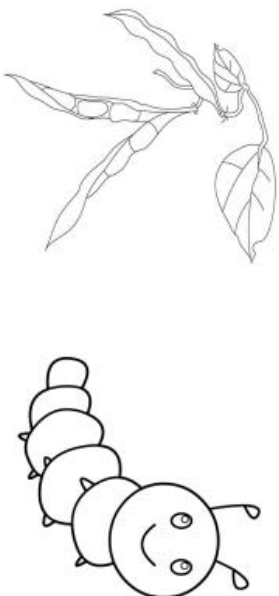


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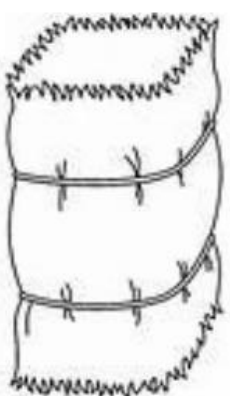
and **ONE** big bunch of  
Central Texas **PECANS**.



On Saturday, he ate...



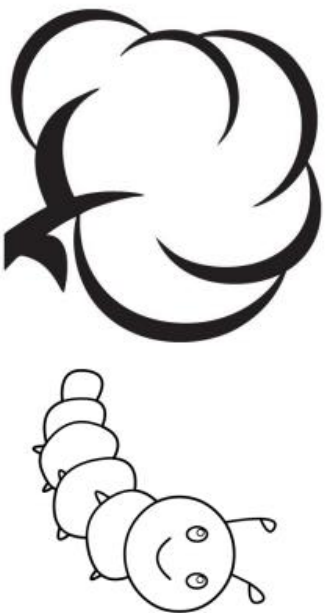
**ONE** acre of North Texas  
**SOYBEANS,**



**ONE** bale of South Texas  
**HAY,**



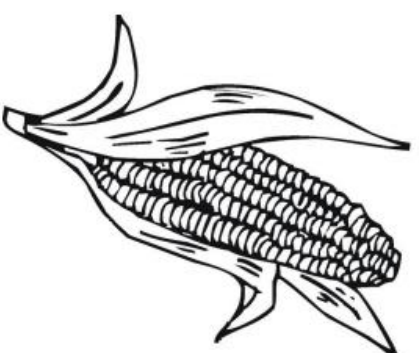
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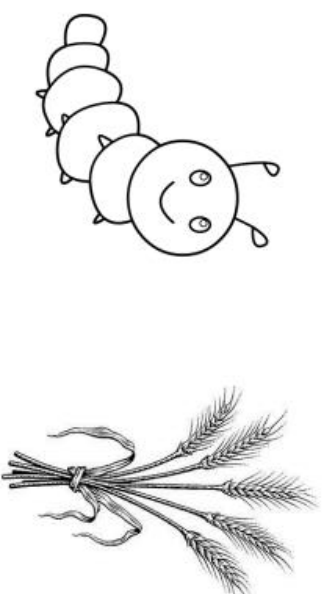
**ONE** bale of West Texas  
**COTTON,**



**ONE** acre of South East  
Texas **RICE,**



**ONE** acre of Panhandle  
**CORN,**



**ONE** bushel of North  
Texas **WHEAT,**



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### **Important Considerations**

- Teachers can save paper by printing 2 pages on the 8.5 x 11 paper.
- When printing the booklets:
  - Go to File>Print>All Pages>Print on Both Sides of Paper> Flip on short edge>Be sure to check Landscape
  - Fold in half, double checking the printing, and put two staples near the left-hand side fold.