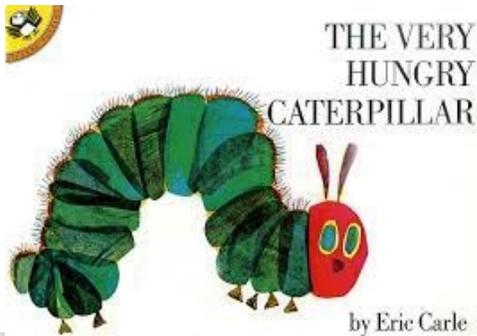


# LISTENING WITH THE HUNGRY CATERPILLAR

## USING AUDITORY CLOSURE WITH A BOOK!

### THINK ABOUT . . .

Auditory Closure is a technique in which you start a sentence or song and suddenly pause at a predictable moment and **wait** for the child to finish the line. This assists the child in making sure he/she is paying attention to all the information being presented so that if you chose to stop suddenly, they could fill in the blank.



### ACTIVITY

- 1- Sit your child down for some reading time and bring out The Very Hungry Caterpillar.
- 2- You can test out auditory closure by telling your child “This book is The Very Hungry...” wait, and see if they finish the sentence with “Caterpillar”.
- 3- If this is a very familiar book, find repeated phrases such as “but he was still...” wait “hungry” to target at the beginning to help the child learn the activity.
- 4- Continue through the book finding new areas to introduce the pause and allow your child to finish the sentence.

### MATERIALS NEEDED:

- The Very Hungry Caterpillar book
- A quiet space to be in while reading

### PREPARATION:

- 1- Practice using auditory closure with sentences or songs that the child is very familiar with
- 2- This could be as simple as Twinkle Little Star (e.g., “Twinkle, twinkle, little...” wait and look at the child expectantly until he/she says “star!”
- 3- If the child doesn’t finish, state the missing word and continue practicing with the same song.

### VOCABULARY:

- Leaf
- Pop
- Caterpillar
- Hungry
- Butterfly
- Apple
- Pear
- Plum
- Strawberry
- Orange

### HELPFUL TIPS:

- You can pair auditory closure in this activity with the technique of auditory sandwich which is where you present the information auditorily, then show a visual, and state the information again so the brain can make the connection between the auditory information and the visual information.
- For example, you could keep the book pages facing away from the child so he/she can’t see the picture and read “Then he nibbled a hole in the cocoon, pushed his way out and...” and wait for the child to state that the caterpillar turned into a butterfly. After the child says this, you can turn the book so the child can see the picture while you finish reading “... he was a beautiful butterfly!”

*Special thanks to graduate students in the Listening and Spoken Language Deaf Education graduate training program at Utah State University. These pages can be reproduced for educational purposes.*

© Utah State University, Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education

