

By Brittany McDaniel and Carly Palmer



Biography of Eric Carle

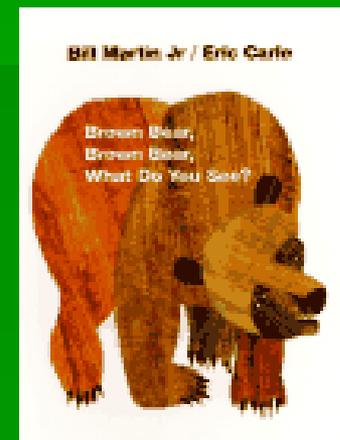
- Born in 1929 in Syracuse, New York to German immigrants
- After Kindergarten moved back to Germany
 - U.S. “enjoyed a classroom filled with colorful paints, big brushes, and large sheets of paper” (<http://www.readingrockets.org/books/interviews/carle/bio>)
 - Hated the strict discipline of his new German school and lack of art

"When it became apparent that we would not return, I decided that I would become a bridge builder. I would build a bridge from Germany to America and take my beloved German grandmother by the hand across the wide ocean."

(<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/writers/writerdetails.asp?z=y&cid=931779#bio>)



- Showed interest in art at young age
 - Support of a high school art teacher
 - Father wanted to be an artist
- Returned to America 1952 (NY)
 - Career as graphic designer and art director
 - Bill Martin Jr. asked him to illustrate picture book



(1969)

Where he gets his ideas?



“Come from all the experiences in his life, all the thoughts in his mind and all the feelings in his heart.”

- **Love of nature**

- Walks through the woods with his father

- **Childhood Experiences**

- Uncle August’s “Thinking Machine”

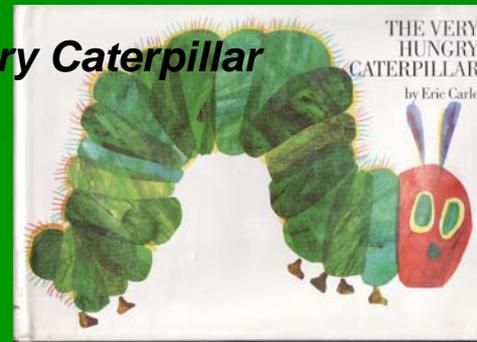
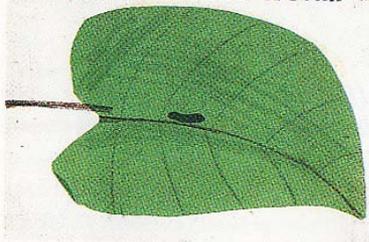
- **From just fooling around**

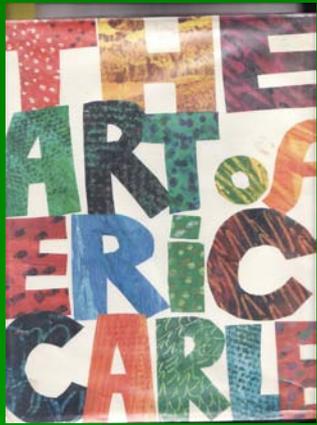
“I playfully punched a hole into a stack of papers. I thought, a bookworm at work! Not enough for a book, but, nevertheless, a beginning.”

- **Help from editors**

A WEEK WITH WILLI WORM

A Week with Willi Worm changed to *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*





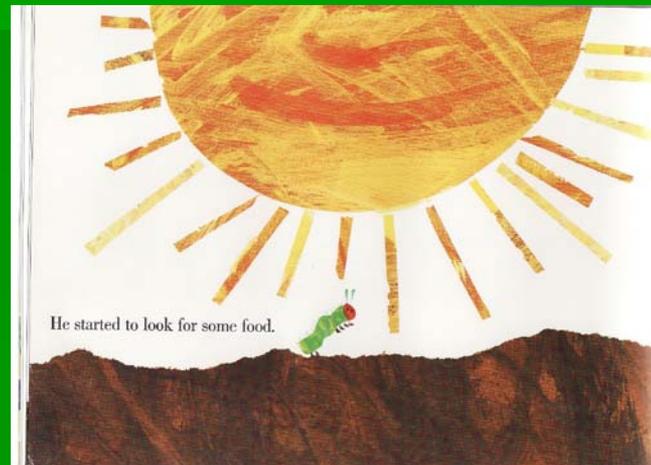
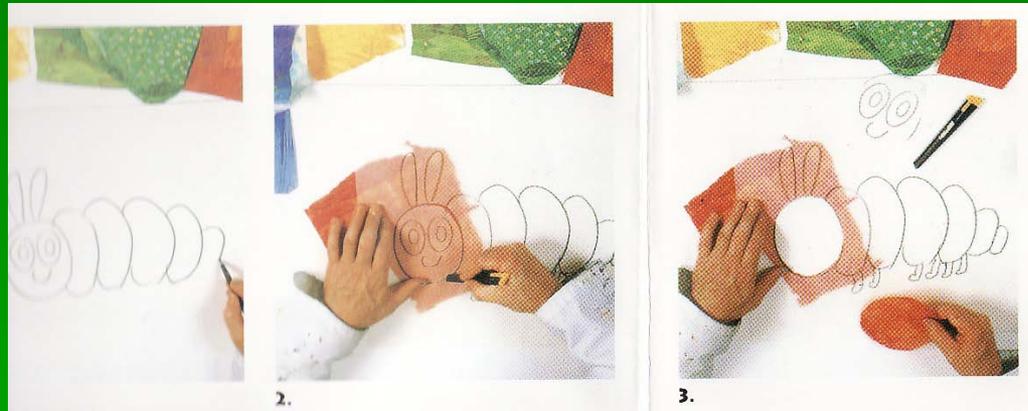
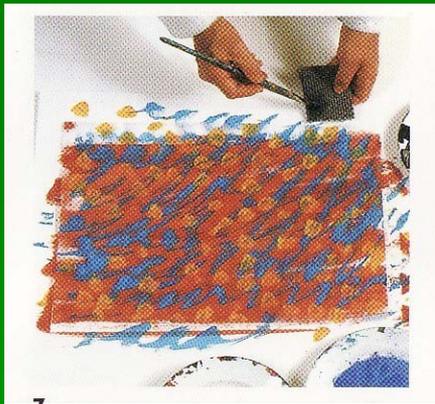
Artwork

- Collage
- White tissue paper
- Acrylic paint
- Brushes to splash, spatter and fingerprint
- Overlap colors
- File papers away
- Bring out papers when he starts a new book
- Cut out or tear and glue to white illustration board

Colored tissue papers laid out to dry



Colored tissue papers stored in flat files



How Picture and Text work together

“A child once called me a picture writer”

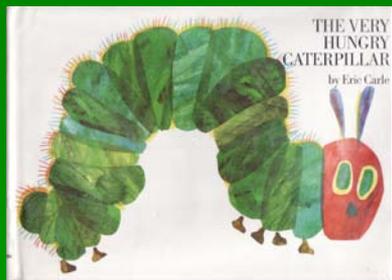
(<http://www.eric-carle.com/faqs.html>)



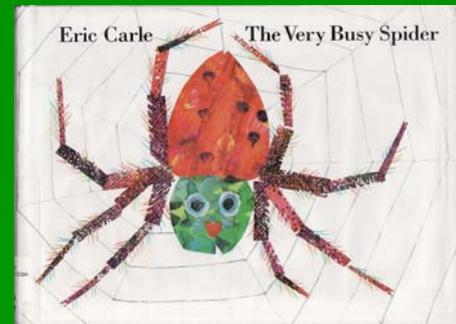
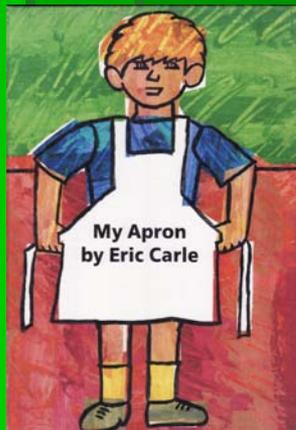
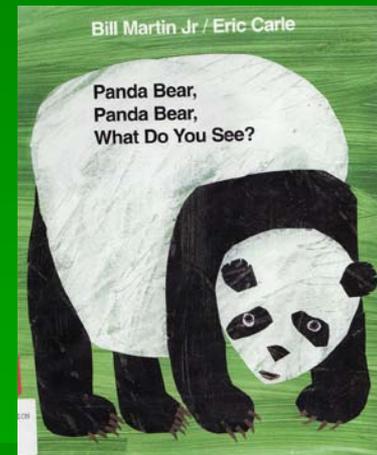
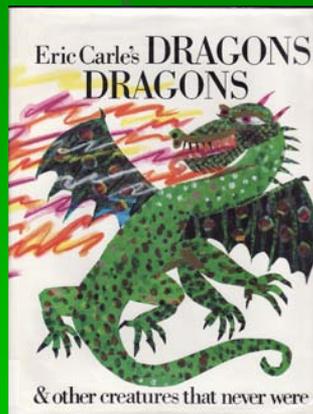
- What comes first, pictures or text?
 - “It is the idea that comes first” (<http://www.eric-carle.com/faqs.html>)
- Simplistic text with simplistic yet fun illustrations
 - Show action
 - Easy for young children to follow
- Two Page Spreads
 - Keep reader engaged



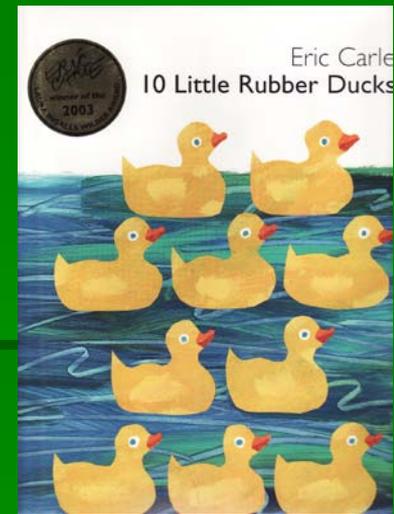
Books written/illustrated by Eric Carle: 70+!



- 1,2,3 to the Zoo
- *The Very Hungry Caterpillar (sold in 18 languages)
- The Very Busy Spider
- The Very Quiet Cricket
- The Very Lonely Firefly
- The Tiny Seed
- Draw me a Star
- A House for a Hermit Crab
- The Grouchy Ladybug
- Have you Seen my Cat?
- Does A Kangaroo Have A Mother, Too?
- My Apron
- The Mixed-Up Chameleon
- 10 Little Rubber Ducks
- Dragons Dragons



Critique



- **Cocoon or Chrysalis?**

- Interchangeable terms
- Poetry won over science!

- **Editor Review (Ann Beneduce)**

- “The simplicity of his style is deceptive...he can compress a very complex idea into a simple direct image”
- “His books....while aesthetically pleasing and entertaining, always also offer the child the opportunity to learn something of real interest and value.”

- **2003 Laura Ingalls Wilder Award Committee**

- “Eric Carle’s visual observations of the natural world encourage the imagination and often mirror the larger changes in a young child’s development and experience,” said Wilder Award Committee Chair Ginny Moore Kruse (http://www.eric-carle.com/award_LIW.html)

- **Similar Components**

- “All of his well-known components are present: a list of animals--many of them recognizable from earlier works--repeated words and phrases, bright friendly art on lots of white background, and a noisemaker at the end.”
- *Ten Little Rubber Ducks*
 - While not Carle's best work, it still has those saturated colors that have such appeal. (Kirkus Reviews, 1/1/2005, Vol. 73 Issue 1, p49, 1p)
- “Slowly, Slowly, Slowly,” Said the Sloth
 - Despite the fact that hardly anything happens, this depiction of a day in the life of a sloth is never boring; riotous colors abound in Carle's intricate painted-tissue, paper-collage jungle, which teems with life. (Kirkus Reviews, 8/1/2002, Vol. 70 Issue 15, p1123, 1p)

Interactive books

“½ book ½ toy”

- Something to touch

The Very Busy Spider (web)

The Very Hungry Caterpillar (holes/stuffed caterpillar)

Watch Out! A Giant (flaps to lift!)

- Something to hear

The Very Quiet Cricket (Chirps)

10 Little Rubber Ducks (quacks)

- Something to See

The Very Lonely Firefly (light up)

The Honeybee and the Robber (pop-up)



Favorite Subjects:

■ Nature

■ Animals

"I think in my books I honor my father by writing about small living things."

(www.eric-carle.com)



School and Home

■ Make Learning and school fun!

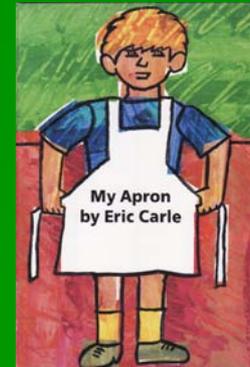
■ Negative school experience in Germany

"With many of my books I attempt to bridge the gap between the home and school." (www.eric-carle.com)

"I want to show them that learning is really both fascinating and fun."

■ Childhood Experiences

■ My Apron



Dear Friends,

"My Apron" is a true story that happened when I was 8 years old. I had a couple of days off from school and visited my aunt Elizabeth and uncle Adam. They had no children of their own and were happy to have me around. My aunt was as gentle and talkative as my uncle was gruff and tight-lipped. But when he did speak, his booming voice could be heard for miles! Yet underneath his roughness was a kind man. I had visited my relatives often before, but this was the first time that I noticed my uncle's apron. And right away I took a fancy to this big white apron with a pocket. I still remember how proud I was of my very own apron and how important I felt to help my uncle with his work.

Sincerely,
ERIC CARLE

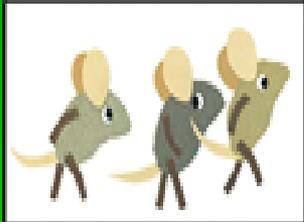
Picture Book Museum



THE ERIC CARLE



MUSEUM OF



PICTURE BOOK



ART

📖 Celebrating the art that we are first exposed to as children.

🎨 A hands-on Art Studio.



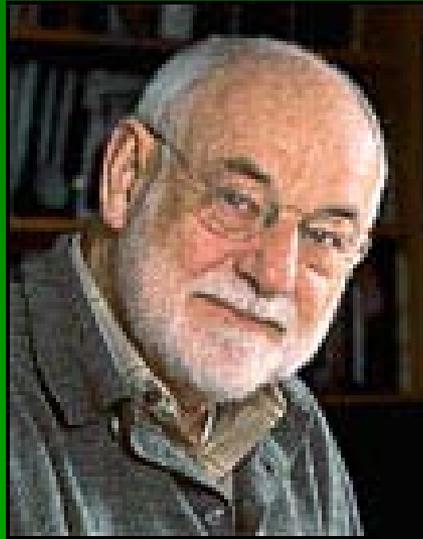
🎭 An Auditorium for performances and lectures.

📖 Library



<http://www.picturebookart.org/index.asp>

Meet Eric Carle!



<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/flash/vd.asp?PID=11597&nav=1&z=y>

Awards



- The 1995 David McCord Children's Literature Citation
- First Prize for Picture Books from the International Children's Book Fair, Bologna, Italy
- Outstanding Friend of Children, Pittsburgh Children's Museum, 1999
- Japan Picture Book Award, 2000
- Laura Ingalls Wilder Award from the Association for Library Service to Children, American Library Association, 2003
 - And Many More....!

The End

