Welcome to Beyond the Stage for Students. This guide is designed to help you prepare for the performance of The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Other Eric Carle Favorites.

About Mermaid Theatre & Eric Carle.......2
Cloud Forecaster..............................................3
Caterpillar Math..............................................4-6
The Animal in Me.............................................7
A Good Audience...........................................8
Resources.......................................................9
Color Me Butterfly...........................................10

Presented by The Lied Center of Kansas
Mermaid Theatre is a group of performers who create and build their own puppets. They have been doing this for more than 35 years. The group uses creative designs, original music and books to help children become comfortable with reading and the performing arts. The theater company is from Nova Scotia, Canada and has toured all around the world. Children in Japan, Australia, Mexico, and other countries have enjoyed Mermaid Theatre’s playful puppets.

Eric Carle was born in 1929 in New York. When he was six, he moved to Germany and went to school there until he was an adult. He returned to the United States and began writing and illustrating books for children.

He has written more than 70 books. His books teach important lessons about life and nature. They have been translated into 25 different languages.

Mr. Carle illustrates his books using bright colors and textures. He sometimes cuts out parts of the pages. All of these things help make his books unique.
Here is a picture of a cloud. Can you draw what might fall out of a cloud? Or what do you wish fell out of a cloud?
Color the background and give the caterpillar a home! Maybe there are trees or a radio? Draw him on a beach or give him some shoes!

Next, cut out the circles with math problems on them. They are on the next page.

Now, place the problems on top of the caterpillar’s back over the correct answer! Check out the example on page six. Good Job! But remember, practice makes perfect!
Cut out around each circle to create your game pieces!

Before you cut out the shapes, check out the example on the back!
example:

once the shapes are cut out, place the problems on the answer!
The Animal in Me!

Draw a picture of yourself using parts of your favorite animal to create the animal in you!

**Example:**
- wings of a butterfly
- ears of a rabbit
- tail of a lion
- nose of a pig

or write about being your favorite animal!

think about:
- what you’d look like
- what you would eat
- where you would live

The animal I would change into is a ______________________ because.....
A Good Audience

When you ✅ at a performance, it is different from watching a 📺 show. At a performance, you are in the same room as the 🎥.

The 👀 are affected by what you, the 😊, do. 🎖️ can do their best when the people in the 🎧 and 🎧 quietly.

 categorie to the narrator tell the story. 🎧 at the actors. 🎧 at the costumes and the props.

At funny moments, it is okay to 🤣. If you enjoy the performance, ✨ when it ends.
Do you use a computer?
Yes: check out these fun links!
No: ask someone to show you!

Learn More and More about Butterflies!

Web Weather for Kids!
http://www.eo.ucar.edu/webweather/cloudfall.html

Butterfly and Caterpillar Crafts!
http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/butterfly

More Eric Carle Books!
The Very Busy Spider
Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?
The Grouchy Ladybug
Papa, Please Get the Moon for Me
Rooster’s Off to See the World
The Foolish Tortoise
The Very Lonely Firefly
“Slowly, Slowly, Slowly,” said the Sloth
Walter the Baker
Chip Has Many Brothers
A House for Hermit Crab
Animals Animals

You can find a complete list of Eric Carle’s books at www.eric-carle.com/books.html
color me!

Then cut me out and post me in a window or bring me along to the performance at the Lied Center!