

Coffee Filter Butterflies

Celebrate the story of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle while also exploring a creative project. Create colorful butterflies using coffee filters, markers, and other craft materials. Finished butterflies can be put on display or used for play!

TIMEFRAME: 45 minutes (includes drying time)

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

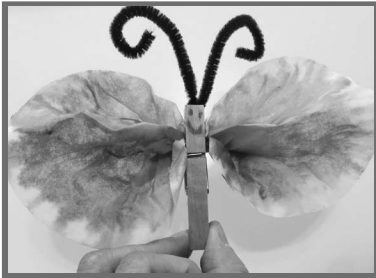
- Coffee filter (one for each butterfly)
- Water-soluble markers
- Small spray bottle with water
- Clothes pin (one for each butterfly)
- Colored pipe cleaner (one for each butterfly)
- Paper plate (one for each butterfly)

Eric Carle reads "The Very Hungry Caterpillar"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vkYmvxPOAJI>

To watch the video tutorial, go to our blog post at:

thinkplaycreate.org/blog/toddler-time-at-home-coffee-filter-butterflies



1

Gather all your materials: Begin by laying the coffee filter on top of your plate.



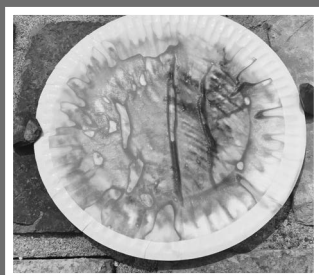
2

Cover the filter completely in marker colors. To ensure bright color results, use analogous colors – colors that are in the same color family (e.g. red, yellow and orange). Be sure to use more than one color so that colors can blend together and form new colors.



Then, use the spray bottle to spritz the filter with water until the colors begin to bleed together. Soak the filter until the colors are fully blended and then place the filter outside to dry.

3



Once dry, accordion fold the filter and pinch it in the middle. Attach the clothespin at the middle pinch point. Then, select a pipe cleaner for creating the antennae and shape it into a "V" while twisting together the end. Place the twisted end into the clothespin mouth. Lastly, add a face and other details to your butterfly.

4



You can name your new "friend."

Maybe you can use it for dramatic play and to tell more stories!

5

