

Talking Points: Eric Carle

How can the natural world inspire our stories?

Eric Carle was a children's picture book artist and author. Inspired by the [colours](#) and [forms](#) from the natural world, he worked mainly with tissue papers, layering them together like the foliage and greenery he had seen. He coloured the paper with [acrylic paint](#) and [collaged](#) them together before adding details with crayons.

Watch the videos below and answer the following questions to begin a discussion about Eric Carle's work.

Please Note:

This page includes links and videos from external sites, verified at publication but subject to change.

Teachers should review all content for classroom suitability.

[Report any issues](#), and check school firewall settings if videos don't play.

AGES 5-8

AGES 9-11

FREE TO ACCESS

Eric Carle

Eric Carle is the author and illustrator of over seventy picture books for young children. The most well known book from this collection is *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*.

As a child, Carle's dad would take him for walks through meadows, memories which heavily influenced his illustrations.

Visit [Eric Carle's website](#) to explore more of his work.

Find out [how Eric Carle paints tissue paper](#).

If your school has access to YouTube you may want to show the first 7 or so minutes of this documentary.

Questions to Ask Children

Have you read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*? (If you have the book in school it may be a nice idea to pass it round the class.)

What do you like about Eric Carle's work?

How does the caterpillar in Eric Carle's work make you feel?

What's your favourite insect? Why?

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Flora and Fauna



[This is featured in the 'Flora and Fauna' pathway](#)

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



Show me what you see

