Unit 3: Awesome Animals
Week 4: Ten Little Caterpillars

**LENGTH OF AT-HOME ACTIVITY:** 10 to 15 minutes

**YOU’LL NEED:** The book *Ten Little Caterpillars* by Bill Martin, Jr. and a pencil or crayon

**ACTIVITY STEPS:**

**TALK** about *Ten Little Caterpillars*, helping your preschooler make predictions about the story.

**ASK QUESTIONS.** Ask and wait 3-5 seconds for an answer. Example questions:
- What does the author do?
- What does the illustrator do?
- What do you think this book is going to be about by looking at the pictures?
- What is a caterpillar?

**SING** Ten Little Monkeys with your preschooler!

> Ten little monkeys jumping on the bed!   Mama called the doctor and the doctor said,
> 1 fell off and bumped his head.   “No more monkeys jumping on the bed!”

(Subtitle one monkey each time you sing the first line until there are “no more monkeys!”)

**READ** *Ten Little Caterpillars* with your preschooler. Have fun!

**STOP** and discuss caterpillars. Ask questions like:
- What is a caterpillar? How does a caterpillar turn into a butterfly?
- Where do caterpillars live? What do they eat?

**COUNT** with your preschooler. You can count along with the story or count other pictures like leaves or apples. See if your preschooler can help you count backwards!

**SOUND OUT** words on the page. Try familiar words such as “the,” “up,” and “ten.” Help your preschooler with bigger words like “little,” “flower,” and “butterfly.”

**DISCUSS** shapes with your preschooler. What shapes do you see in the collage that illustrator Lois Ehlert uses?

**DEFINE** any new words you come across in the story for your preschooler!

**FOLLOW UP ACTIVITY:** Keep the counting going! What else can you count with your preschooler around the house?

**WRITING EXTENSION:** On the back of this page, help your preschooler write and illustrate what happened to the eleventh caterpillar!