Fletcher’s Four Seasons series

Fletcher and the Caterpillar

Author: Julia Rawlinson
Illustrator: Tiphanie Beeke
Age: 3-5
Format: Hardback
Language: English
Size: 200 x 250mm
Publication date: March 2021
Price: £12.99

Author and illustrator’s websites:
www.juliarawlinson.com
www.tiphaniebeeke.com

Front cover

Discussion
Introduce the person who wrote the book, the author – what other books has the author written?
Julia Rawlinson writes the Fletcher stories.
Discuss the illustrator – what does the illustrator do?
Who enjoys drawing?
The illustrator draws and paints the pictures for the book.
Who can you see on the cover?
Do you think they are friends? How do you know?
This is Fletcher’s caterpillar story – what do you think they’ll get up to?

Activities
Create a chalk drawing of the cover outdoors.
Create caterpillars from junk materials or with construction blocks and make repeating patterns on them.

Inside spread

Discussion
What can you see?
Look closely – what has happened to the leaves?
Who do you think has been munching the leaves?

Activities
Collect different leaves and sort them into groups by colour, shape and size.
Pages 4 & 5
Discussion
‘Stretching’, ‘swelling’, ‘unfurling’ – adjectives are describing words. Can you think of more words to describe the meadow and tree?
This looks like a cherry blossom tree (called a sakura in Japanese). It is very important as it means spring is here.
What can Fletcher see on the leaf?
Activities
Draw things that are signs of spring.
Watch YouTube videos of flowers budding and blossoming in spring.

Pages 6 & 7
Discussion
There he is – a caterpillar.
What pattern does he have?
Can you think of other animals or insects that are stripey?
Did the caterpillar want to play?
What did he want to do?
Activities
Talk about your favourite food, then make them out of playdoh and take a photograph.

Pages 8 & 9
Discussion
Who came to see Fletcher?
Have you seen squirrels?
There are grey ones and red ones.
What does the squirrel enjoy doing?
Does the caterpillar enjoy climbing and racing around?
Activities
Find out about squirrels – where do they live? What do they eat? Do they sleep through winter?

Pages 10 & 11
Discussion
Can you see the mice? How many mice are there? What are they doing?
Oh dear, what did the caterpillar do with the leaf?
Is Fletcher very careful with the caterpillar?
Activities
Make some leaf or recycled paper boats and race them.
Pages 12 & 13
Discussion
Who did Fletcher find in the ferns?
What are they doing?
Do you enjoy playing hide and seek?
How many rabbits can you count?
Activities
Create an imaginative woodland play area and hide toy animals behind, under and on top of the grasses and plants.

Pages 14 & 15
Discussion
What did Fletcher do while the caterpillar munched?
Fletcher must have been very tired – he fell asleep.
Do you get tired after a busy day?

Pages 16 & 17
Discussion
Oh! What happened?
The caterpillar is silent and still – what could be wrong with him?
Activities
Find out about the life cycle of a caterpillar.
Make a caterpillar to hang on a mobile.
Make a simple life cycle jigsaw.

Pages 18 & 19
Discussion
Fletcher was very careful with the caterpillar.
Have you helped to look after someone or something?
Who, when?
What did you do?
Activities
Create an animal hospital indoors or outdoors for the children to look after sick animals.
**Pages 20 & 21**

**Discussion**
Look, the caterpillar has stuck himself to the branch!
Do you know why?
What could a chrysalis be?
The caterpillar’s getting ready for a rest.

**Activities**
Spin some chrysalises from wool or string to hang up on your life cycle mobile.

**Pages 22 & 23**

**Discussion**
Look at the blob Fletcher found.
What is it?
Mummy Fox knew what was happening.
She is very clever.

**Pages 24 & 25**

**Discussion**
What can you see here?
Who is in the boat altogether?
Fletcher, the mice and the blob - 4
Have you been in a boat? Was it fun?
What was happening to the chrysalis?

**Activities**
In a movement session, demonstrate a life cycle and move in different ways: wriggling, rustling, rolling, curling, swirling, stretching.

**Pages 26 & 27**

**Discussion**
What happened next?
Can you see the butterfly?
What pattern does he have on his wings?

**Activities**
Create finger-painted butterflies and hang them outdoors or on your life cycle mobile.
Back cover

Discussion
What do you see on the back cover?
Who can you see?
The lines at the bottom of the page is known as an ISBN – it is a code.
All books have a special code and each one is different – just like we have fingerprints.

Activities
Explore and compare fingerprints by looking at them with magnifying glasses.
Find out about butterflies and learn some of their names.

FLETCHER SERIES:

Fletcher and the Springtime Blossom
ISBN 9781913134624
Fletcher and the Summer Show
ISBN 9781913134631
Fletcher and the Falling Leaves
ISBN 9781913134648
Fletcher and the Snowflake Christmas
ISBN 9781913134655
Fletcher and the Caterpillar
ISBN 9781913134662
Fletcher and the Rainbow
ISBN 9781914079245
Fletcher and the Rockpool Pub 9 June 2022
ISBN 9781914079320
Fletcher and the Stars Pub 6 October 2022
ISBN 9781914079337

These notes may contain links to third party websites. Graffeg does not endorse such website(s) or their contents and is not responsible for such contents and makes no representations or warranties regarding the contents, accuracy or functionality of such website(s).