

Unplugged Character - Caterpillar

In this lesson students will use the action bricks to help them role-play, recognize, and understand different emotions.

STEM, Creative Exploration, Social Emotional Development, Early Math and Science

PreK-K

30-45 min.

Intermed.



Engage

Read students this story about a little caterpillar:

There was a caterpillar who loved all kinds of colors and she always dressed in lots of colors. She went to kindergarten, just like all of you! Her favorite thing to do at kindergarten was to play hide-and-seek, and she loved to eat snacks with her friends.

But sometimes, she got upset because she was very tired after playing for a long time. The best way to make her happy again was to let her nap for a little while.

In the winter, sometimes the caterpillar got sick. Her teacher always took good care of her, wiping her nose and giving her water to drink.

Tip: Feel free to adapt this story to make it more relatable for your class.

Explore

- I'd like to know more about this little caterpillar, wouldn't you? Let's build her!
- Build a caterpillar and a train track.
 - What emotion do you think you might see on the caterpillar's face when she is doing her favorite thing? (Students may say smiling, laughing).
 - Let's make that face when the caterpillar travels over the yellow action brick. Let's practice. (Place the yellow action brick on the track and have the

KEY OBJECTIVES

Students will

- Recognize and understand different emotions
- Use the track and the action bricks to create stories

STANDARDS

The Coding Express lessons have been developed using the K-12 Standards from the Computer Science Teachers Association and Common Core State Standards. They also support the science, math, and technology guidelines from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the 21st Century Early Learning framework (P21) and Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework.

The learning goals listed at the end of each lesson can be used to determine whether each student is developing the relevant skills. These bullet points target specific skills or pieces of information that are practiced or presented during each lesson.

THINGS YOU'LL NEED

- Coding Express set (45025)
- [Printable Model Card 1](#)
- [Printable Model Card 2](#)
- [Printable Model Card 3](#)
- [Printable Model Card 4](#)
- [Teacher Introduction and Learning Grid](#)

Action brick colors on the model cards have no relevance to the unplugged lesson.

Explore more at LEGOeducation.com

LEGO, the LEGO logo, the Minifigure and DUPLO are trademarks of the LEGO Group. ©2022 The LEGO Group. All rights reserved.



education™

caterpillar travel over the brick with students making a happy face)

- What emotion do you think you might see on the caterpillar's face when she is doing something that makes her upset? (Students may say sad, crying).
- Let's make that face when the caterpillar travels over the blue action brick. (Place the blue action brick on the track and have the caterpillar travel over the brick with students making a sad face)

- What emotion do you think you might see on the caterpillar's face when she is tired? (Students may say yawn; eyes want to close).
- Let's make that face when the caterpillar travels over the white action brick. (Place the white action brick on the track and have the caterpillar travel over the brick with students making a tired face)

- What emotion do you think you might see on the caterpillar's face when she is frightened? (Students may say open mouth; eyes are wide open).
- Let's make that face when the caterpillar travels over the red action brick. (Place the red action brick on the track and have the caterpillar travel over the brick with students making a tired face)

- What emotion do you think you might see on the caterpillar's face when she is angry? (Students may say grit teeth; cry).
- Let's make that face when the caterpillar travels over the green action brick. (Place the green action brick on the track and have the caterpillar travel over the brick with students making a tired face)

Explain

- Talk to students about the different emotions and the faces they made when the caterpillar traveled over the action bricks.
- Ask questions like:
 - What emotions did we see?
 - Why do you think the caterpillar was happy, sad, angry, frightened, or tired?
 - Can you create something using LEGO bricks or other things to make the caterpillar feel happy or cheerful?

Elaborate

- Encourage students to create models to match each of the caterpillar's emotions.
- Combine all the models to make a story!
- Talk to the students about being a good friend.

Explore more at LEGOeducation.com

LEGO, the LEGO logo, the Minifigure and DUPLO are trademarks of the LEGO Group. ©2022 The LEGO Group. All rights reserved.



- Ask questions like:
 - When our friends are sad, how can we help them to be happy again?
 - How can we take care of our friends when they're sick?
 - How can you be a good playmate and friend?

Evaluate

Evaluate the students' skills development by observing if they can:

- Express thoughts, ideas, and opinions to others
- Design and express ideas using digital tools and technology
- Identify cause and effect relationships
- Understand other people's feelings
- Express their thoughts and feelings
- Recognize and name emotions
- Understand how their actions affect others

More Ideas

- Use the lesson's format to create a lesson for a Troll and a Robot.
- Create your own stories for the characters in the Engage phase and explore additional emotions with your students.

Explore more at LEGOeducation.com

LEGO, the LEGO logo, the Minifigure and DUPLO are trademarks of the LEGO Group. ©2022 The LEGO Group. All rights reserved.

