



TEACHER RESOURCE

Teacher Tips

The book explorations and art projects presented here are inspired by open-ended, educational approaches we use every day at The Carle. By encouraging involvement with words, pictures, and art materials, children build their language skills, learn to find meaning in what they see, and practice basic reading and writing—all fundamental skills for their future success.

Explore Endpapers

Endpapers are the pages at the very beginning and end of a book. Eric Carle's endpapers often provide clues to the story within.

Book cover image: *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin Jr. Illustrated by Eric Carle. Illustration Copyright © 1967 by Eric Carle. All rights reserved. Used with Permission.

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Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?

by Bill Martin Jr, illustrated by Eric Carle

This touchstone picture book has earned a spot on bookshelves and in hearts all over the world. Starting with a brown bear, the animals in the book take turns naming who is looking at them. The rhythmic, repetitive text pairs with the bright, bold collages to create a story that readers want to return to again and again.

READ & EXPLORE

- Start by opening the book so children can see the front and back covers. Do they think the pictures show the same bear or two different bears? Why?
- When you reach the blue horse, ask the children if they've ever seen a blue horse. Why do they think Eric Carle made the horse blue?
- Ask the children to look at the endpapers. They may notice that the colored stripes are in the same order as the colors of the animals that appear in the book.

PLAY & SHARE

- *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* features a blue horse and a purple cat! Ask the children to close their eyes and imagine an animal in a different color. Take time to share what everyone imagined and have them create drawings of the animals.
- Chant the words with the children's names instead of the animals' names. Say "Child name, child name, What do you see?" and then have that child continue with another child's name, "I see _____ looking at me!"
- Using construction paper, craft sticks, and glue, have the children make masks of their favorite animal from *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* Read the book again, having children stand with their masks covering their faces when their animal is called.



BROWN BEAR
turns



The Art of ERIC CARLE

My Favorite Color Collage The animals in *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* aren't made with just one type of brown, red, or yellow color. Eric Carle used a few colors within each color family to make the animals. In this collage activity, children will use their imagination and paper scraps from a single color family to make their own colorful composition.

TEACHER RESOURCE

Materials

- Strips of white paper (about 6 x 18 inches)
- Colored paper scraps (sort by color into small baskets or trays)
- Scissors
- Glue sticks

TIP Before you begin the project, look for scraps of paper in all different colors. You can use collage paper, painted paper, tissue paper, and more. For inspiration, see the papers shown in the artwork on this page.

Invite the children to arrange their collages together into bands of color like the endpapers of the book!



1 Hand out Paper Scraps

Set out baskets or trays of colored paper on the work area. Each basket should contain collage papers from one color family. Let each child pick one color basket for the project.

2 Design a Picture

Give each child a piece of white paper and scissors. Have them arrange their colored papers on the page, cutting or tearing the papers as they wish. They can design pictures of colorful shapes or make animals or scenes.

3 Glue the Shapes

Hand out glue sticks so the children can glue down their shapes onto the background papers.



BROWN BEAR
turns



The Art of ERIC CARLE

Animal Clay Sculptures The animals in *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* have a variety of features that make them unique—beaks, claws, tails, fur, fins, and feathers. Teach children a few basic techniques for sculpting with clay, then let them create their own clay animals.

TEACHER RESOURCE

Materials

- Natural air-dry clay, rolled into balls
- Cardboard squares (about 6 x 6 inches)
- Plastic forks
- Twigs, pebbles, rice, or pasta pieces
- Water spray bottle (optional)
- Liquid water colors or tempera paints in the colors from the endpapers of the book (optional)
- Paint brushes

Optional

Allow clay sculptures to dry overnight. Once dry, provide children with paint brushes and liquid watercolors or tempera paint. They can paint their sculptures in one of the bright colors from *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?*



1 Play with Clay

Invite the children to play with their clay ball and try changing the shape using the diagram below. They can roll the clay into a skinny coil with the palms of their hands, flatten the clay into a pancake with their fists, rip the clay and pinch the pieces together with their fingertips, or poke or scratch marks in the clay with their fingernails.

2 Sculpt a Clay Animal

Provide each child with a cardboard square to work on. Now invite the children to shape their clay into an animal head and body. Show them photographs of live animals for inspiration.

3 Add Details

Distribute plastic forks to the children and encourage them to scratch texture in the clay, just like the lively marks Eric Carle painted in the animal illustrations. Have them add finishing details with twigs, pebbles, rice, or pasta for the animal's teeth, fur, tail, or horns.

Creative Ways to Play with Clay



Roll into a skinny coil



Make marks
with
fingernails



Flatten
into a
pancake



Rip, then pinch
the pieces
back together



BROWN BEAR
turns



The Art of ERIC CARLE

Painted Textured Paper In Eric Carle's books, he paints designs on tissue paper, then cuts and tears the painted paper into shapes for his collages. Have the children look at Eric's collages and notice the textures (marks and scratches) in the art. Explain that this is called visual texture (you can see it but can't feel it). Then, invite the children to make their own marks on paper.

TEACHER RESOURCE

Materials

- Finger paint paper or heavyweight drawing paper
- Finger paint
- Paint brushes
- Textured drawing tools (twigs, popsicle sticks, forks, or chopsticks)
- Tablecloth or newspaper to protect work area
- Smock

Preparing for Collage

Once all the papers are dry, have the children cut and tear their paintings into pieces for collages. Invite children to contribute some of their pieces to a box of shared collage papers.

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1 Paint a Solid Color

Give each child a piece of paper, paint, and a paint brush. Have them cover their sheets of paper evenly with finger paints using paint brushes.

2 Add Patterns and Marks

Once the paper is covered with paint, ask the children to use textured drawing tools to remove areas of the paint and reveal the white paper below.

3 Make More Painted Papers

Encourage the children to make different kinds of lines and marks on each paper: fast, slow, thick, thin, straight, and curly. That way, they will have interesting papers to use in their own collages.

Have the children make a variety of textured papers with warm and cool colored paint to use in collages.

