

**Title:** The Very Lonely Firefly

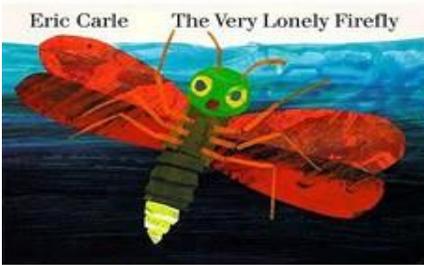
**Author/ Illustrator:** Eric Carle

**Age Range:** 4-7

**Topics/Themes:** Fireflies, loneliness, summer, sources of light

**Vocabulary:** Lonely, lantern, flickering, shimmering

**See video of this book read aloud here:** [The Very Lonely Firefly](#)



**COMPONENTS OF BOOK (REVIEW EACH SESSION)**

Author, Illustrator (roles of each) author and illustrator the same on this book  
Title; front and back covers; spine

**PRE READING:**

- Look at the title. What do you think this story is about? What makes you think that?
- Do you know of any other books by Eric Carle? (Very hungry caterpillar, brown bear, brown bear, etc)
- Do you notice anything about how ethic Carle illustrates his books?
- What insect is on the cover? What do we know about **fireflies**? (Fireflies are not native to the west coast, so explain what makes a firefly special: the lower part of its body lights up

**DURING READING DISCUSSION:**

- p.3. What does it mean to be lonely? Why was the firefly lonely? Why do you think That?
- p.6. Who or what do you think the firefly is looking for?
- p.8. Can you predict what is going to happen next? Why do you think That?
- p.24. Can you predict now what will happen to the firefly? Why do you now think that? end of story -- how does the firefly feel now? Why?

**POST READING DISCUSSION:**

- Conduct a picture walk with the students, having them retell the story.
- When does the story take place? Why was it important that the author, Eric Carle, wrote the story so it took place at night?
- Discuss the sources of light from the story: lantern, flashlight, light bulb, headlights. Can you think of other things that provide light?

- Do you ever feel lonely? What do you do when you're feeling that way?
- If you were the firefly in this story what would you have done?
- What do you think a different ending to this story could be?

**Supplemental activity:**

Cut apart the pictures and have students sequence them as a group in order of the story.

# The Very Lonely Firefly by Eric Carle

Story Sequencing Activity created by Regina Davis  
--Cut out the pictures and glue to the numbered sequence sheet in the correct order

