

Bringing the BUZZ to You!

The Buzzword partners designed this kit to inspire your family to keep learning together. We chose activities that build on your child's natural curiosity, encouraging a growing vocabulary and a deeper engagement with books.

So, who's ready to unbox the BUZZ!? First, read through **Becoming Vanessa**, written by **Vanessa Brantley-Newton**, with your child. Then, go through the different activities, experiments, and ideas together, taking time to explain the meaning of the words and connecting them to your child's real-life experiences.

METAMORPHOSIS Book Recommendations from Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh!

Whether they are starting preschool or child care for the first time, developing new friendships, or discovering new interests, early childhood can be filled with big and little changes. Stories can help your little one understand and process how to move through these transitions.

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (CLP) has put together a list of books to share with your child and help you talk about changes and transitions together.

www.carnegielibrary.org/staff-picks/metamorphosis/

El Cucuy Is Scared, Too! by Donna Barba Higuera

Full of Fall by April Pulley Sayre

I Am Ready for School!: A Book about Transitions by Stephen Krensky and Sara Gillingham

Isabel and Her Colores Go to School by Alexandra Alessandri

Magic: Once Upon a Faraway Land by Mirelle Ortega

The Old Truck by Jarrett Jumphery

Perfect Square by Michael Hall

Same Way Ben by Maryann Cocca-Leffler

Sometimes I Kaploom by Rachel Vail

The Very Impatient Caterpillar by Ross Burach

Walter Had a Best Friend by Deborah Underwood

The Year We Learned to Fly by Jacqueline Woodson



Personalized Recommendations

Looking for a good book, album, movie, or TV show? We're happy to recommend them to you! Use this Personalized Recommendations form to send a CLP librarian some information about what you like and we'll curate a list just for you.

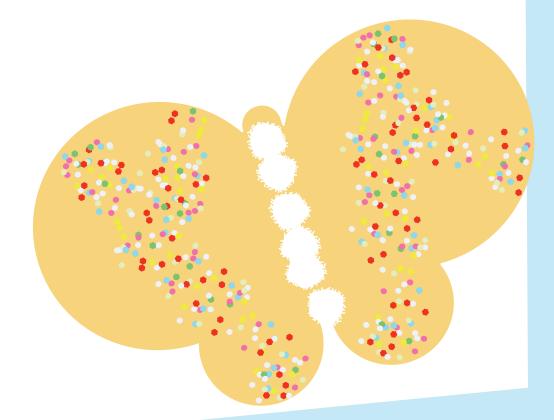
www.carnegielibrary.org/match



Beautiful Bedazzled Butterfly

Materials: cut out butterfly, pom poms, glue stick, markers, glitter glue

- **Step 1:** Gather all materials, and then find the butterfly cut out.
- **Step 2:** Glue pom poms into the middle of the butterfly cut out. This represents the caterpillar that turns into the butterfly through METAMORPHOSIS.
- **Step 3:** Color the wings with markers and bedazzle them with glitter glue.
- **Step 4:** Let your butterfly dry and watch it fly!





Butterfly Life Cycle

Materials: "Butterfly METAMORPHOSIS" template, markers, glue stick, three (3) white pom poms, yellow pipe cleaner, black pipe cleaners (one long, one short), green paper, orange tissue paper

- **Step 1:** Color the leaf green. Put some glue on the leaf and attach three white pom-pom "eggs".
- **Step 2:** Find the black and yellow pipe cleaner. Twist the pipe cleaners together. Bend the twisted pipe cleaners in half and twist again so the two halves stay together. Put some glue on circle #2 and attach the pipe cleaner caterpillar.
- **Step 3:** Color the branch with a brown marker. Find your green paper. Roll the paper so it's long and skinny, then squish it so it stays in a chrysalis shape. Put some glue on circle #3 and attach the paper chrysalis, so the chrysalis looks like it's hanging off the branch.
- Step 4: Find your orange tissue paper and short black pipe cleaner. Scrunch the tissue paper in the center. Wrap the short black pipe cleaner around the squished middle of the tissue paper and twist the pipe cleaner ends so there are two black antennas. Fluff the tissue paper into wings. Gently attach the tissue paper butterfly with glue to circle #4.
- **Step 5:** Finish your masterpiece by coloring your butterfly border. Can you retell the METAMORPHOSIS of the butterfly from beginning to end?

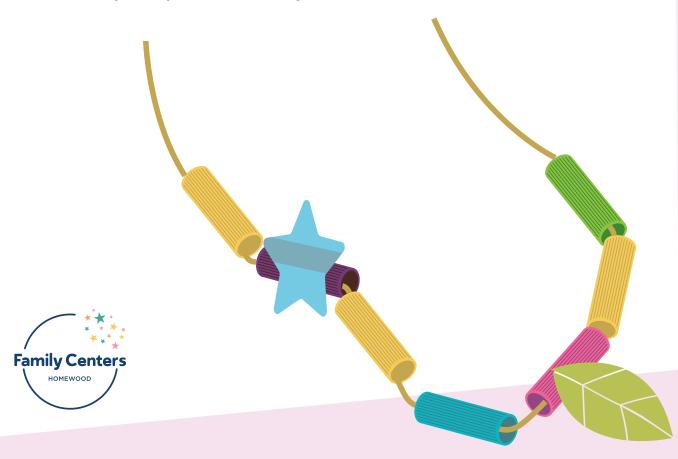


Special Accessory Necklace

In the story "Becoming Vanessa" by Vanessa Brantley-Newton, the main character Vanessa wears many special pieces of clothing or accessories to her first day of school. Wearing special items makes Vanessa feel special, like a beautiful butterfly! You can make a special accessory, too!

Materials: string, colorful pasta (option to add other materials w/ glue stick)

- **Step 1:** Find the piece of white string and the colorful pasta.
- **Step 2:** String the pasta onto the string. Can you make a pattern with the colors? Make it special for you!
- **Step 3:** Tie the ends of the string together into a knot and wear your special accessory for all to see!



Pop-Out Butterfly Puppet

METAMORPHOSIS is when one thing grows and changes into something different. You can change a piece of paper into a butterfly!

Materials: 9 x 12 paper, markers, scissors, popsicle stick, glue

- **Step 1:** Fold paper in half (so it looks short and wide like a hamburger bun).
- **Step 2:** Draw a half of a butterfly on the fold line as pictured.
- **Step 3:** Using scissors, cut through both layers of paper to create a butterfly.
- Step 4: Decorate with markers.
- **Step 5:** Use the glue stick to attach the popsicle to the back of the body of the butterfly to create a puppet that can fly around!





METAMORPHOSIS Dance

Join Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre in a METAMORPHOSIS dance!

Materials: link to METAMORPHOSIS Dance

Step 1: Click the link (https://www.pbt.org/ learn-and-engage/programs-for-schools/ metamorphosis/%C2%A0) or scan the QR code to the METAMORPHOSIS Dance.



Step 2: We will start with a mindfulness exercise to connect with ourselves, then warm up our bodies to dance. We will dance out the metamorphosis of a butterfly.



METAMORPHOSIS Costume Craft

In this BUZZ Box, you read "Becoming Vanessa" by Vanessa Brantley-Newton. Vanessa picks out some very flashy clothes for her first day of school! That's because Vanessa wants to wear something that will let her classmates know she is **special**.

When someone is performing in theatre, like in an opera, they will often wear a costume to **transform** into another character. The costume they wear lets the audience know **who they are** and what makes their character **special**.

Someone playing the role of Cinderella might wear a beautiful ballgown and glass slippers. Someone playing a king might have a big crown and a cape. Someone playing a wizard might wear a shiny cloak and hat.

Let's design our OWN costumes to **transform** into any character we want!

Materials: silk scarves, glue stick, markers, coloring page

- **Step 1:** First, find the page with the outline of a person in your BUZZ Box.
- **Step 2:** Next, color the page to make it look like a drawing of YOU!
- **Step 3:** Then, find the strips of fabric inside this BUZZ Box.
- **Step 4:** Lastly, use the strips of fabric to create a costume for your drawing. You can glue the fabric to the paper to help it stay put. Ask an adult to help you if you want to cut out shapes from the fabric.



Emerging Butterfly Craft

Materials: clothes pin, pom poms, glue, markers, half piece of pipe cleaner, coffee filter, and toilet paper roll (not included)

- **Step 1:** Collect an old toilet paper roll and use the markers to color the roll. This will be your chrysalis, the space where a caterpillar turns into a butterfly.
- Step 2: Next, find your coffee filter and use markers to decorate your coffee filter. When you're finished, ask a caregiver to help you splash a bit of water on the coffee filter, the colors will seep in and create a tie dye effect! Let the coffee filter dry.
- **Step 3:** Glue pom poms to the clothes pin using the glue stick to create the center of the butterfly.
- **Step 4:** Wrap your small pipe cleaner around the opening of the clothes pin to create your butterfly antennae.
- **Step 5:** When your coffee filter is dry, fold it as if you're making a fan. Clip the clothes pin in the center of the folded coffee filter. Unfold the filter on the sides to make the wings.
- **Step 6:** Now that your butterfly is complete, you can fold the wings and put it in the chrysalis. As you push out the butterfly from its chrysalis, you will see how the full life cycle changes or METAMORPHOSIS of the butterfly!



Research Says

From birth to age five years, young children's brains are rapidly developing. During this time, little ones are more open to learning and becoming inspired. Talking with a child helps increase vocabulary development and communication skills needed throughout life.

A child's early vocabulary skills grow in real-life settings through positive interactions and conversations about the world.

Who Are We?

Buzzword excites children and families as they experience the words that are all around them. Through talk and play that incorporates math, science, and art, young children will expand their vocabularies and conversation skills. The program engages families and community organizations throughout Allegheny County.

The Buzzword collaborative consists of partner organizations with expertise in the arts and sciences and local family centers. These partners provide interactive learning opportunities that encourage imagination, investigation, creation, and reflection. Buzzword is supported by PNC Grow Up Great® and the Allegheny County Department of Human Services.

Partner Organizations:







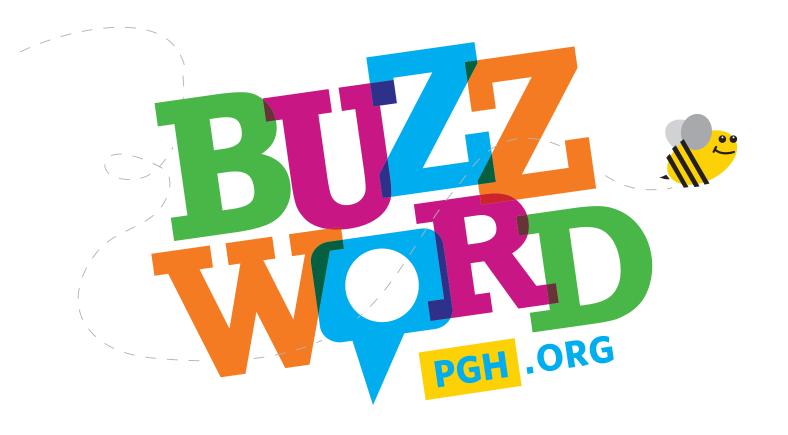












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