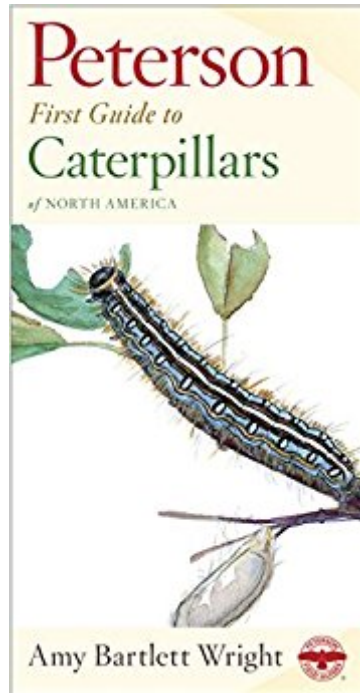


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# Peterson First Guide To Caterpillars Of North America



## Synopsis

Here is the first and only guide to a subject of great interest to gardeners, small children, and lepidopterists: caterpillars, the immature form of butterflies and moths. This guide describes 120 common species of these fuzzy creatures. All the caterpillars, their adult forms and many of their host plants are illustrated.

## Book Information

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Age Range: 11 and up

Grade Level: 5 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Roger Tory Peterson, one of the world's greatest naturalists, received every major award for ornithology, natural science, and conservation as well as numerous honorary degrees, medals, and citations, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The Peterson Identification System has been called the greatest invention since binoculars. These editions include updated material by Michael O'Brien, Paul Lehman, Bill Thompson III, Michael DiGiorgio, Larry Rosche, and Jeffrey A. Gordon.

Before you squish those "worms" that are eating the plants in your garden, look them up in this book first -- they might just be larvae of the very butterflies you are trying to attract! This book will help you tell the good bugs from the pests. As far as I know, it's the only field guide devoted entirely to caterpillars. The book covers 120 species, arranged according to appearance (hairy, spiny,

smooth-skinned, etc.) which makes it easy to look them up. Species in the same family tend to have similar-looking caterpillars, so even if the exact kind you found isn't in the book, you'll have an idea what family it's in, so you can look for further info. The illustrations also include food plants and the adult moth or butterfly that your caterpillar will turn into. Plus, the slim shape makes it easy for kids to hold in their small hands. Great book!

Our 6-year old daughter is a budding entomologist, and has been fascinated with butterflies in particular for the last two years. Each spring she has a great time running around our garden collecting caterpillars and raising them into butterflies. The problem we always had was how to identify them before they actually became butterflies...Well, this book is a great help in that respect. It lays out the various broad categories of caterpillars in order to simplify identification. A very nice feature is that it also often includes information on the plant species that both the caterpillar and the adult butterfly feed upon. Also, a great small size - perfect as a "field guide". We keep a copy in the glove box of our VW camper so that it is always handy on family outings.

This book is great for beginners and met my needs for what plants are needed for the caterpillars and butterflies

I ordered Peterson's First Guide to Caterpillars of North America at the same time I ordered a more comprehensive guide. I'm so glad I did, because I've used it more frequently than the large guide to identify what caterpillars I've seen. If you are ever curious to see what butterfly will emerge if you don't squash that caterpillar, then I'd recommend this guide.

This is a great little book. The size makes it easy to carry with you, but more importantly, the guide gives more detailed info on caterpillars than do most Caterpillar ID books. The pictures are all colored drawings, but are actually more useful and informative than many ID books using real photos. I really appreciate that the book goes into identifying cocoons, pupae, what the caterpillars eat and etc... The only drawback with this book is that it only covers 120 caterpillars. Still, for the money, this book is excellent.

I failed to see that these "First" guidebooks are designed for the novice. No Genus & Species names, very few examples, a waste of money for anyone except a child or a beginner.

Purchased for my wife who had recently taken a Master Naturalist course at the University of Minnesota. This was one of the books on their suggested reading list. She thinks it's great and has used it several times already as a reference.

The perfect caterpillar book for the basic caterpillars you'll find. A great starter book, and then once you know more you can get a more complete reference, but surely start with this one so you aren't overwhelmed by everything that's out there. I recommend it whenever I give a presentation on butterflies/moths/caterpillars.

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