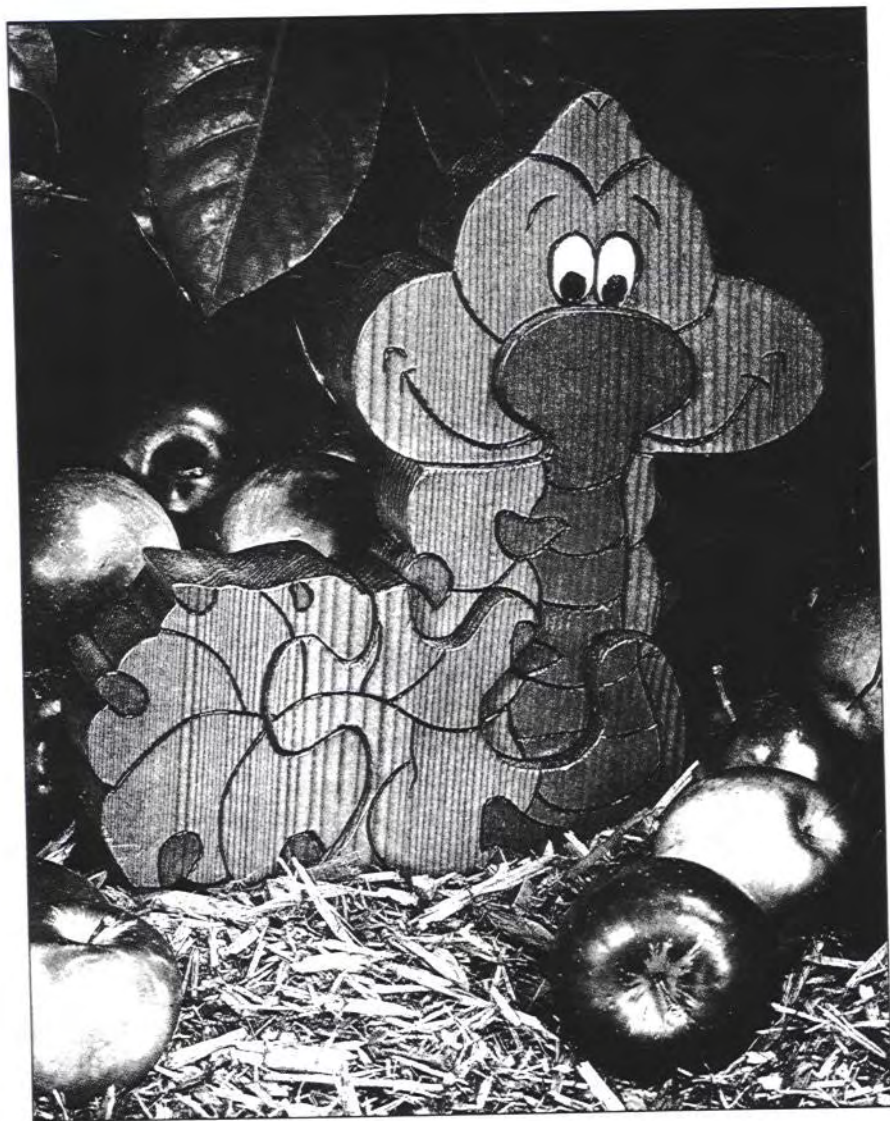


KING OF THE CATERpillARS



When it comes to entertainment, this king-sized caterpillar does double duty. A toddler will love fitting the big pieces together. And you'll have your fun, too, cutting those pieces, woodburning, and painting.

1. Trace the black cutting lines from the full-sized pattern onto a 1½x9¼x10" piece of stock (a 10" length of clear, straight-grained 2x10 fills the bill). Softwoods such as pine, fir, cedar, or redwood (our choice) work well.

2. Install a sharp blade in your scrollsaw (a good choice: Olson's no. 411 or similar, .110x.022" with 15 teeth per inch), and then scrollsaw around the outside line. Next, cut the inside lines to separate the four puzzle pieces. Sand slight round-overs along all of the edges.

3. Assemble the pieces, and trace the red woodburning lines onto your cutout. Burn the lines about ⅛" wide. Move the woodburning pen along the line at a steady speed—slowly enough to etch a solid, black line into the wood, but

fast enough that you don't scorch the wood beside the line. Lift the pen from the wood periodically to let the tip reheat.

4. Sand all surfaces smooth, removing traces of pattern lines that remain. (We also sanded away a few scorch marks.) Now, add some accents with stains or acrylic artist's colors.

5. Paint the eyes solid white and black, but apply other colors as thinned washes. After the paint dries, coat both sides and all edges with clear, gloss polyurethane. Before you turn the caterpillar loose in the playroom, make sure the pieces slide together easily. If they don't, sand the mating edges with 220-grit sandpaper until they do, and touch up the gloss finish.

Project Tool List

Scrollsaw or bandsaw
Woodburning pen
Finishing sander

Note: We built the project using the tools listed. You may be able to substitute other tools or equipment for listed items you don't have. Additional common tools and clamps may be required to complete the project.



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**FULL-SIZED
PATTERN**

