第 37 回ちびっ子イングリッシュコンテスト英語暗唱部門　課題文

対象：　小学 3～6 年生

Advice from a Caterpillar

The Caterpillar and Alice looked at each other for some time in silence. At last the Caterpillar took the hookah from its mouth.

“Who are *you*?” asked the Caterpillar..

Alice felt nervous. “I’m afraid I’m not sure,” she said. “I knew who I *was* this morning, but I have changed many times since then.”

“What do you mean?” asked the Caterpillar. “Explain yourself!”

“I can’t explain *myself*, I’m afraid, sir,” said Alice, “because I’m not myself, you see.”

“I don’t understand,” said the Caterpillar.

“I don’t understand it either,” Alice replied. “I have been many different sizes today. It is very confusing.”

“It isn’t,” said the Caterpillar.

“Well, perhaps not for you,” said Alice. “But one day you will change, too. First, you will become a chrysalis. Then you will become a butterfly. That must feel strange.”

“Not a bit,” said the Caterpillar.

“Well, perhaps you will feel differently,” said Alice. “But it would certainly feel strange to *me*.”

“You!” said the Caterpillar. “Who are *you*?”

Alice was annoyed. The Caterpillar kept asking the same question and gave *very* short answers.
“I think you should tell me who *you* are first,” she said.

“Why?” asked the Caterpillar.

Alice could not think of a good answer. (216 words)

Adapted from Lewis Carroll’s *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*