Slimey the Worm Gets a Pet Bug
Episode 4175

February 2009
Letter and Number: W, 15; Word: frightened

Oscar and Slimey drive the Sloppy Jalopy to the Bug-a-Wee Bug Shelter to find a pet bug for Slimey. A Detroit Dirt Digger is the perfect match for Slimey, and he names his new friend, Dirty. But Dirty seems scared in his new home. For help, Oscar and Slimey read The Bug Book from the bug shelter. The book says to prepare a dirt bed and dress like a bug to help Dirty feel at home, but Dirty still seems frightened. Finally, the book suggests that they sing the “Welcome Bug Song.” It works! Now Dirty is happy, Slimey is happy, and all this happiness is making Oscar grouchy.

Crafty Caterpillar
Explore nature and science together create your own caterpillar! Cut an egg carton in half lengthwise. Color it with paints or markers, giving it eyes and a mouth. When dry, make antennae by poking two pipe cleaners or cotton swabs through the carton above its eyes. Talk about what your caterpillar eats and how it moves from one place to another.

Keeping Calm
Expand your child’s ability to identify and cope with emotions by talking about the word of the day: frightened. Explain that to be frightened means to feel afraid or scared. Tell him that everyone feels frightened sometimes. Ask him, “When have you felt frightened? What made you feel better?” Discuss things he can do to feel safe and calm during scary times.

Bugs of Wonder
Discover nature while learning a new language. Search for bugs under rocks or even flying around streetlights at night. What do they look like and how are they different or the same? Learn the names of your child’s favorite bugs in Spanish by searching online or at your local library. For starters, practice the Spanish word for butterfly: mariposa.

Feel and Count 15
Connect movement with counting to help your child understand the number 15. Count to 15 together, clapping or jumping once for each number. Then, search around for 15 things to count in your home or neighborhood. Can you find 15 fallen leaves, or 15 small rocks? What else can you count 15 of?

Squeaky Clean
Emphasize the importance of washing your hands. Explain that clean hands help keep us healthy. In magazines or newspapers, look for pictures of things that have to do with keeping clean, like someone taking a bubble bath or a rubber duckie. Post the pictures you find as a reminder for your child to wash her hands after playtime and before meals.