Butterfly Education and Awareness Day



What is Butterfly Education and Awareness Day?

Butterfly day was conceived to raise awareness of butterflies and how important they are as pollinators, something we associate with bees, but not always with butterflies. It also aims to protect the welfare of Butterflies through conservation and research. The day was set up by the Association for Butterflies., a nonprofit American organisation and this year is the 10th annual Butterfly Day.



Here are some fun activities to celebrate Butterfly Education and Awareness Day. We would love you to share your learning with us either by email or on our school twitter @EllisonPrimary

Enjoy! ☺

Butterfly Lifecycle

Out of all animals on earth, butterflies are up there with one of the more interesting and unusual life cycles. A human baby looks very similar to a human adult, but the same cannot be said for butterflies. Take a look at the links below to find out more. The first link details what a life cycle is in general and the second shows a butterfly transformation.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zxcmp39

https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/how-caterpillars-change-into-butterflies-no-narration/zn4rkmn



Cautious Caterpillar

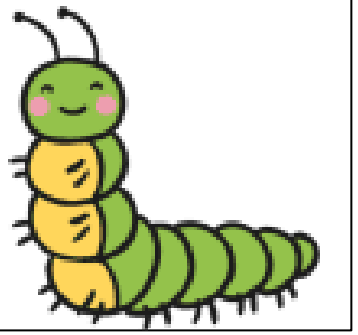
A story about the life cycle of a butterfly - from egg to caterpillar to chrysalis to butterfly. Cody the Caterpillar is nervous to change but her friends, the minibeasts, including a ladybird, a bee and a grasshopper, give her some encouragement. Join Cody as she learns to embrace her exciting transformation. In order to see the video, sign up for free by visiting: www.twinkl.co.uk/offer You will need an email address to sign up. Enter the code: UKTWINKLHELPS

https://www.twinkl.co.uk/go/resource/the-cautious-caterpillar-ebook-with-audio-tg-345-newlink

Acting

Why not have a go at acting out the story? Or act out transforming from a caterpillar to a butterfly. You could use this link to add some movements and actions to the story.

Google Drive Link.



Butterfly Mobile

To help to visualize the life cycle of a butterfly, why not print, decorate and make this beautiful butterfly mobile.

https://butterfly-conservation.org/sites/default/files/2020-03/Butterfly%20Lifecycle_0.pdf



Butterfly Feeder

Just like bees, sometimes butterflies can struggle to find flowers, especially if they find themselves in an urban area. Follow these simple instructions we have made to make your own butterfly feeder and support our local butterfly Population to thrive.

Google Drive Link.



Whipsnade Zoo

Whipsnade Zoo has been around since 1931 and is ran be the Zoological Society of London, a charity devoted to the worldwide conservation of animals and their habitats. As well as many other species the zoo has a butterfly house, that is home to over 30 types of butterfly.

Take a look at this YouTube video to see inside the butterfly house and see how many different butterflies you can spot. Look out for the crocodiles though!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQByiuiprp8

The link below gives more information about the butterflies, click on "Flying Facts" to learn more, You could make a fact file from this information and draw your own butterfly to go with it.

https://www.zsl.org/zsl-london-zoo/exhibits/butterfly-paradise



Watch

Why not watch this clip on the iPlayer of Andy's Wild Adventures, where Andy goes to find the Monarch Butterfly in Mexico.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b01dn3fr/andys-wild-adventures-series-1-15-monarch-butterflies

Or take a look at a more local butterfly with this BBC clip about the Gatekeeper Butterfly.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01197ql

Younger children will enjoy this short programme about JoJo & Gran Gran trying to find butterflies.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000gj2y/jojo-gran-gran-series-1-5-its-time-to-find-a-butterfly

Butterfly Mask

There has been a long tradition of wearing masks in Venice, Italy going all the way back to the 13th century. They are mainly worn now for the Carnival of Venice, or sold to tourists as gifts. People wore these masks as a way of hiding who they were so they could mix could mix together, a good example of this is the masquerade ball in Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.

Below are some examples of Venetian butterfly masks, follow the link to make your own.

https://butterfly-conservation.org/sites/default/files/2020-04/Make%20a%20Butterfly%20Mask.pdf

Click the link below to see a scene from Romeo and Juliet by the Royal Opera House, see if you can dance in time in your new butterfly mask.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SyDo3hITu7c

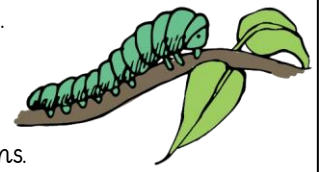


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Caterpillar Art

The Butterfly Conservation organization have a brilliant, yet simple caterpillar craft activity.



All you need is an old egg box, two straws or pipe cleaners, crayons and these simple instructions.

https://butterfly-conservation.org/sites/default/files/2020-03/Make%20a%20Caterpillar.pdf

Different Types of Butterflies

There are over 20,000 different species of butterfly in the world, with 59 of them being species in the UK.

If you see a butterfly, but don't know which type it is you can compare it on this page from the Butterfly Conservation Organization.

https://butterfly-conservation.org/butterflies/identify-a-butterfly

You can also use this wonderful butterfly checklist to go out and look for butterflies. See how many you can tick off when you are in your garden or on a walk.

Google Drive Link.

Butterfly Poems

Some of our key worker children have took the time to write their own poems about butterflies whilst in school. Follow the link below to listen to their wonderful poems.

Google Drive Link

