

**Grade Level:**

PreK-K

Subject Area:

Social Studies

Science

Language Arts

WMELS:

Scientific Thinking:

Observations: C.EL.1

Mathematical

Thinking:

Comparisons &

Patterns: B.EL.4

Motor

Development:

Object

Manipulation: B.EL.2

Social Competence:

Social Interactions:

C.EL.2

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Butterfly Stages

Lesson Guide

Program Overview:

By participating in the Butterfly Stages program, children will become familiar with the life cycle, camouflage, and characteristics of various butterflies by making observations and comparisons in the classroom and through interactions with live specimens.

Background:

All insects have three body parts (head, thorax and abdomen), six legs and two antennae.

Butterflies also have four wings (butterfly wings have scales on them, much like fish). We will discuss metamorphosis, camouflage and characteristics of butterflies.

Student Objectives:

1. To discuss the body parts of butterflies, as well as features on those body parts.
2. To become familiar with the life cycle of butterflies through interactive play.
3. To observe different colorations and patterns on butterfly wings.

Assessment:

Through hands-on, interactive activities provided at learning stations in the classroom:

1. Children will have gained new information about butterflies through observations and exploring live specimens in the Museum's butterfly garden.
2. At hands-on activity stations in the classroom, children will have applied knowledge and skills that were discussed and observed during the program.

Program Vocabulary:

Camouflage: the hiding or disguising of something by covering it up or changing the way it looks

Chrysalis: the pupa of a butterfly

Head, Thorax, Abdomen: All insects have these three body parts

Metamorphosis: a fundamental developmental change in the form or structure of an animal occurring after birth or hatching

Nectar: a sweet liquid given off by plants and especially by the flowers and used by bees in making honey

Proboscis: an elongated appendage from the head of an animal; in butterflies, used for feeding

Enrichment Vocabulary:

Migration Milkweed Plant Predator Prey Scales

Procedure

Meet your Museum educator at the bottom of the grand staircase on the ground level five minutes before your scheduled program start time.