

TEACHER MATERIALS - Butterflies

CONCEPTS: Reading - for content
- vocabulary
Language - grammar
Life Science - 1A - 2.41

OBJECTIVES: At the end of this unit the students will:

1. describe the life cycle of the butterfly/moth.
2. correctly identify which insect is a moth and which is a butterfly.
3. learn new vocabulary as it relates to butterflies, moths, and caterpillars.

BACKGROUND: Entomology is the study of insects, bugs and spiders. The complex lives, life cycles, and habits of the millions of insects make up an intricate science. Children are naturally curious about insects. Explore the life cycle of one species in these activities.

ACTIVITIES: 1. Have the students read "A Butterfly" on pages 1-13 through 1-14.



2. Depending upon the time of year, see if class members can find eggs, cocoons, butterflies, or moths outside of the classroom.
3. If the students find a caterpillar:
 - A. Put it into a jar with some of the leaves the students found it on. Cover the jar with a lid or plastic wrap. Punch holes in the lid or top. Keep the temperature moderate (out of direct sunlight).



B. Give the caterpillar fresh leaves (the same type as the caterpillar was eating when found) and take out the wilted ones .

C. Have the students watch the caterpillar eat.

D. Ask the students what they see?

E. If you have good luck, the caterpillar will grow larger and spin a cocoon.

F. If the caterpillar does not eat and becomes inactive release it back to the outdoors where it was caught.

4. Using the Life Cycle in Science on page 1- 75, compare the egg, larva, pupa, and butterfly/moth to the life cycle of humans:

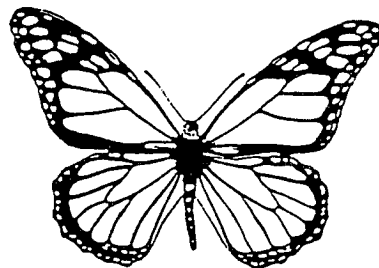
baby - child - teen - adult.

5. Have the students read "Which is Which?" on page 1-15.

6. Have the students identify which insect is the butterfly and which is the moth according to what they read.

7. Complete the Science lessons on insects on pages 1-65 through 1-75.

8. Have the students read The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle.



Answer key to "A Butterfly":

A butterfly begins as a tiny egg. Many, many eggs are laid on a leaf. It looks like this. From every egg a tiny caterpillar hatches. The tiny caterpillar eats leaves. It eats and eats and eats. The tiny caterpillar grows and grows and grows. One day it spins a cocoon. Winter comes. Inside the cocoon the caterpillar begins to change. In the spring a tiny face (head) pops out of the cocoon. But the face is a new one. As it pushes out of the cocoon its wings appear. The caterpillar is now a beautiful butterfly (or moth). The butterfly does not eat leaves. It eats from flowers.



Vocabulary

butterfly-

eggs-

leaves-

cocoon-

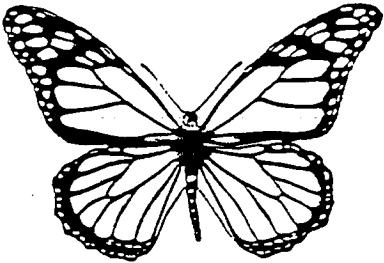
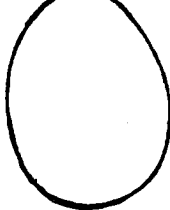
hatches-


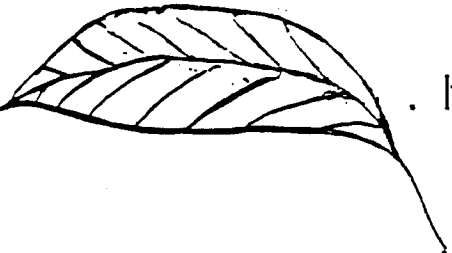
wings-

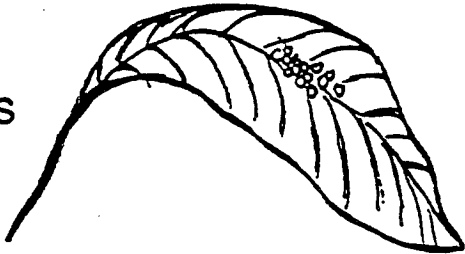

mates-




lay-


A BUTTERFLY

A  begins as a tiny . Many,


many  are laid on a . It

looks like this . From every  a tiny

 hatches. The tiny  eats 

It eats and eats and eats. The tiny  grows

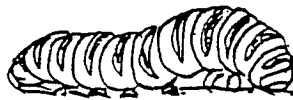
and  and 

One day it spins a . Winter comes.

Inside the



the



begins to

change. In the spring a tiny



pops out of the

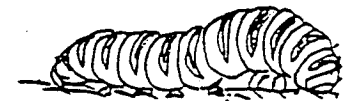


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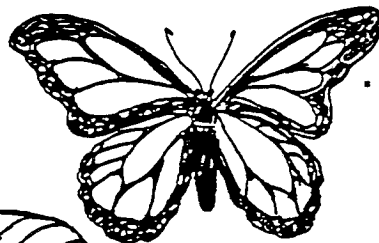
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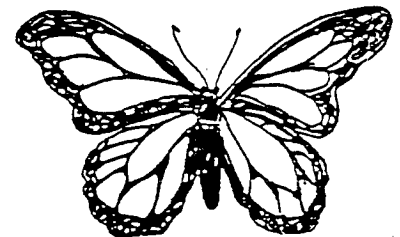
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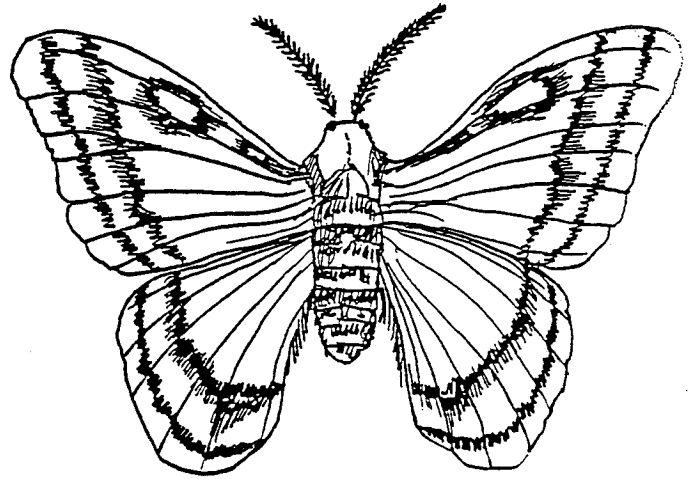
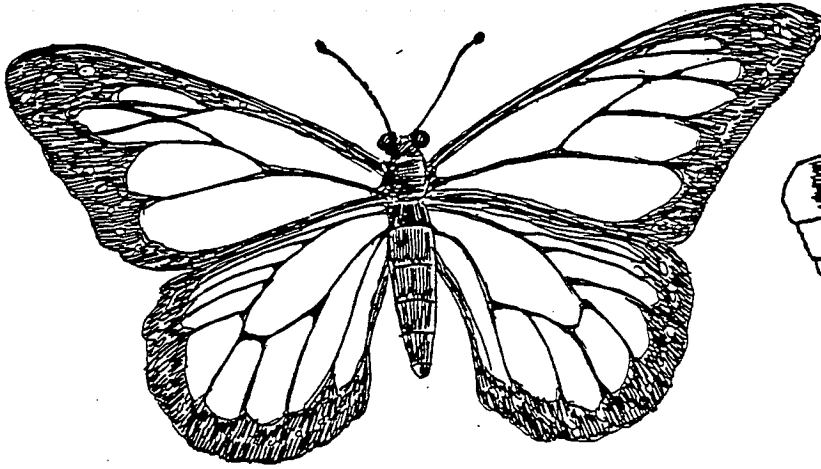


In a short time the butterfly will mate and lay eggs. It all

begins again.

Name _____

Which is which?



Which is the butterfly?

Which is the moth?

A butterfly has antennae shaped like this



and a thin body.

A butterfly eats during the day and rests at night.

A moth has a plump body

and antennae shaped like this



A moth eats during the night and rests during the day.