

# Exploring Butterflies

## Center 1- Observing Live Butterflies

1. How many butterflies have emerged from their cocoons?
2. How many days did you see these butterflies stay in their cocoons before they hatched?
3. How many wings do you see on each butterfly?
4. What colors do you see on the wings? Sometimes these butterflies have blue scales. Look very closely. Do you see any?
5. Draw a diagram of a butterfly here:

*(Label the body, legs, wings, antennae, and proboscis on your diagram. The Proboscis is the curled up "tongue" that the butterfly uses to eat nectar.)*

6. Why do you think the Proboscis is shaped the way it is?
7. What do we feed the butterflies in the classroom?

## Center 2- Butterflies on the Web

On the computer, open Butterflies of North America on the Favorites List.

Read about the butterfly and answer these questions:

Look at the Map of the United States at the bottom of the page. Have Painted Lady Butterflies been seen in the wild in Virginia?

Where do female Painted Lady butterflies lay their eggs?

Where are Painted Lady butterflies found?

What is the wingspan of the Painted Lady butterfly?

What is another name for this butterfly?

### **Center 3- The Life Cycle**

When it is time to move to your next center, you will move to Create a Painted Lady Butterfly Life Cycle Chart. Remember, the materials are there for you to use, but please do not waste or abuse them.

Look at the print out of the moth life cycle.

Think about what the Painted Lady Butterflies did in our classroom. Some of the steps are the same for the moth and the butterfly.

Write what steps make up the life cycle of the Painted Lady and write them here:

Once the teacher approves your life cycle, go on to the next step.

Based on what you know and have seen, draw a Life Cycle for the Painted Lady Butterflies and label it. You should have at least 4 steps in your cycle. Color it, and we'll display our life cycles in the classroom.

### **Center 4- Butterfly Poetry**

Find a good haiku poem about nature and leave 5 copies at this center. Ask students to create their own haiku about the classroom butterflies.

**Closure:** The teacher will ask for all of the groups to put their work in the completed work basket. The teacher will ask all of the children to move their desks back and prepare for the next lesson.