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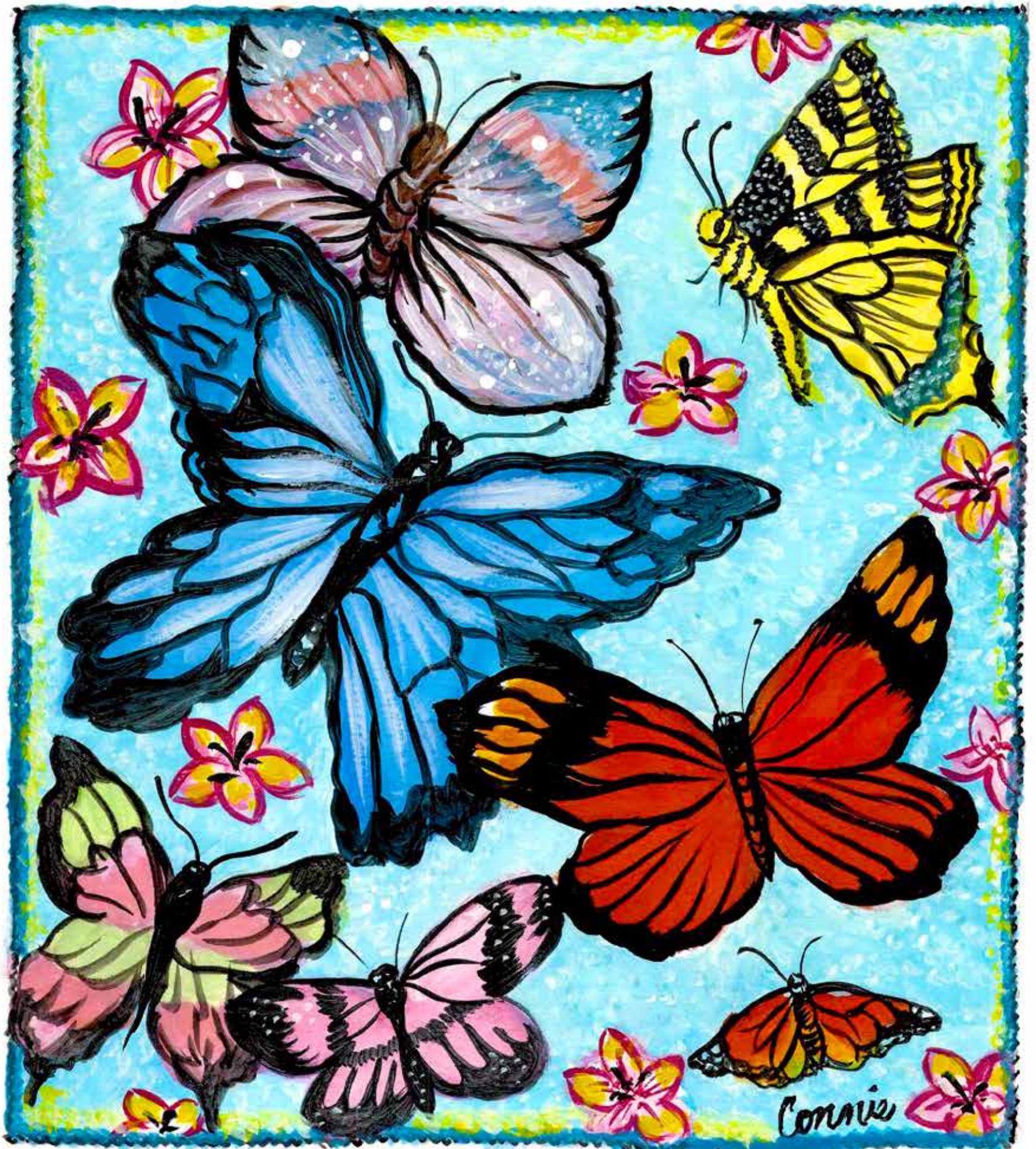
The Children's Newspaper...that's Read by Parents and Grandparents, too!

Volume 38, Issue 3

July/August 2026

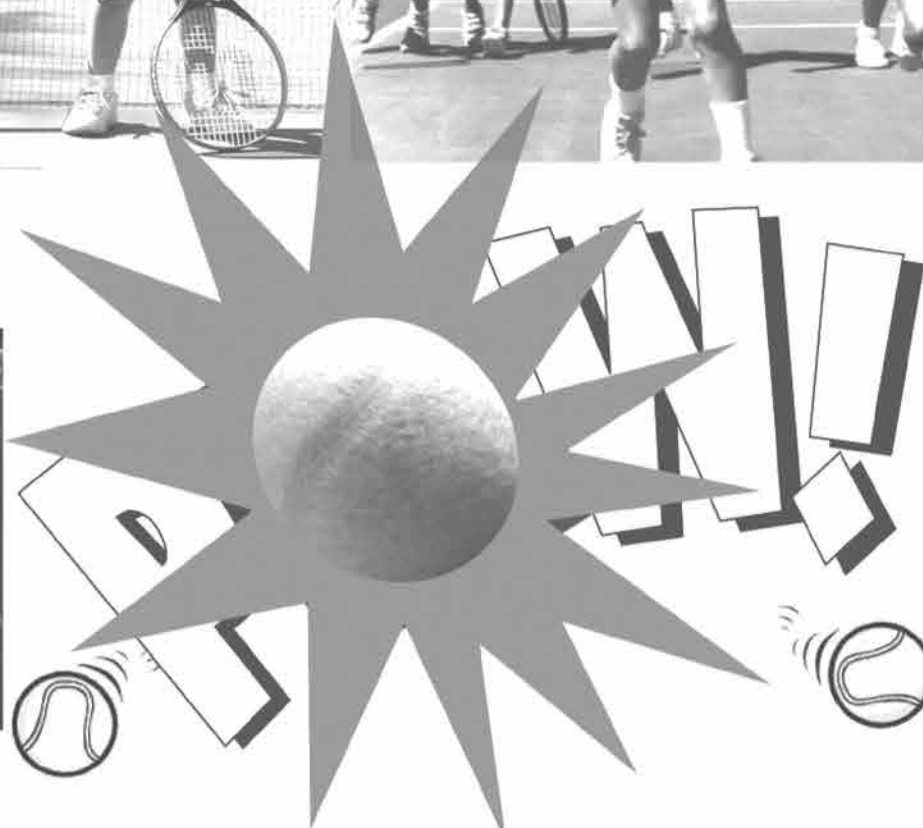
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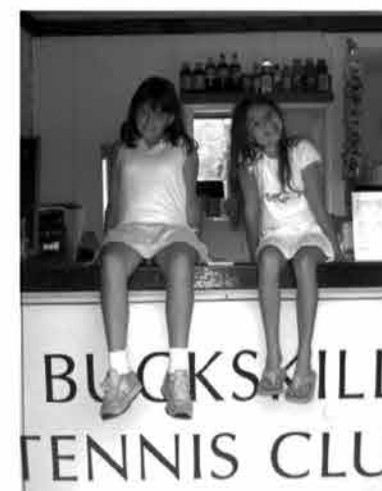
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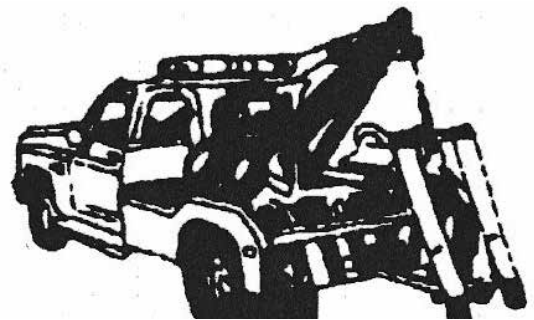
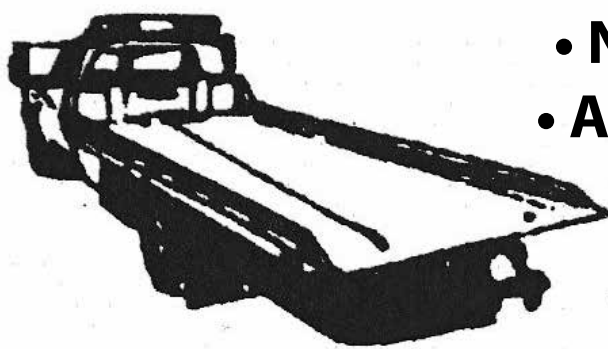
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Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

This is a very special issue about butterflies. People say butterflies are free. People say this is true. People say butterflies are the most beautiful creatures on earth. They have flown harmlessly in the air for many, many years. They start off as caterpillars and then turn into the most beautiful insects ever made by the hands of G-d. This issue is all about butterflies. Maybe one can learn about and love them for who and what they are - as flowers in the sky.

Sincerely,
Eric Wald

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Publishers.....Eric "Waldo" Wald, Susan M. "Tulip" Wald
Executive Editor.....Susan M. "Tulip" Wald
Advertising Sales.....Eric Wald
Technical Support.....Rob Florio
Circulation.....John Brinsmade, Ryan Albert

Contributing Writers:

Eric Wald, Connie McGuinness, Paula Timpson, Ms. Spiral Notebook,
 Greg Bullock,, Moe Kennedy, Christopher Clark,
 Rosemary Szczygiel, Debbie Tuma

Contributing Artists and Photographers:

Susan Wald, Connie McGuinness, Greg Bullock, KarenLise Bjerring
Puzzles by KarenLise Bjerring

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Butterflies Around the World

by Connie McGuinness

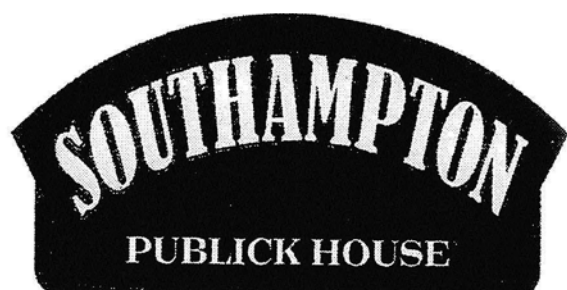
There are 20,000 different types of butterflies in the world. They are found in every continent on earth except Antarctica. It is too cold there, with no food source, plants, or flowers for them to survive. Butterflies live all over the world: in meadows, forests, deserts, and on mountains. Many different types of butterflies live in rain forests. Some butterflies migrate to avoid cold weather while others will migrate to avoid hot or dry weather. To migrate means to move to a new place to live for a certain amount of time. Monarch butterflies are one of the migrating butterflies. They will travel thousands of miles from eastern Canada and the United States to Mexico and California. Monarch butterflies are bright orange with black lines on their wings and white spots.

The largest butterfly in the world is the Queen Alexandra's Birdwing. The females can spread their wings to almost 11 inches. These butterflies are rare and found in rain forests in New Guinea. Females are larger than males, they are dark brown with cream and yellow markings. Males, however, are smaller with bright green and black wings.

In the tropical rain forests lives a butterfly called Heliconius Hewitsoni and the Mourning Cloak, they are the longest living butterflies. They can survive up to 348 days, almost a year. Not all butterflies live so long. Small butterflies often survive only a few days. Most butterflies live for about seven to 10 days in the wild, while other butterflies that migrate can live for six to eight months.

Butterflies are very beautiful. In order to protect them, we need to protect our rain forests, stop using pesticides and harmful chemicals on our plants. Also, we need to also plant wildflowers, so butterflies have a food source.

Butterflies play an important role in our world. Studies of butterflies teach us about our environment. Through these studies we can try to make this world a better place to live for all living creatures, big and small.



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HOW BUTTERFLIES METAMORPHOSE

by Paula Timpson

It is very magical the way caterpillars metamorphose, or change shape into beautiful butterflies!!! The word metamorphosis comes from the Greek word meaning transformation, or change in shape.

Butterfly metamorphosis came to be over 380 million years ago. It developed in stages. This helped insects not compete for the same food sources. Four hundred million years ago, insects hatched as nymphs, without full wings.

Then insects came from the egg as larvae. The larvae ate many leaves to grow big. Next, inside the chrysalis, unique clusters of cells, called imaginal discs, created the new butterfly body.

In 1679, German scientific illustrator Maria Sibylla Merian discovered caterpillars and butterflies are the same insect. Her book, *The Caterpillar, Marvelous Transformation and Strange Floral Food* shows this truth.

There are four stages. First, an adult butterfly lays an egg, then the caterpillar hatches, resting inside the hard shell chrysalis, attached to a twig, and then it becomes a butterfly.

A butterfly's wings are wrinkly, wet and soft when it first comes out of the chrysalis. The word "chrysalis" comes from the Greek word, *chrysos*, meaning gold. There are pretty gold dots on the chrysalis.

The caterpillar has to hang upside down and pump special fluid to make wings big and strong. Then the wings need to stretch out and dry in the sun.

A butterfly flies to find drink of sweet nectar in flowers, and also looks for a mate. Funny are caterpillars. They only need to eat and grow. Wow!

They grow 1,000 times bigger, shedding four or five times. Inside the chrysalis, the caterpillar's body totally changes into liquid and becomes a butterfly.

Butterflies remember when they were caterpillars. The whole metamorphosis process takes two to four weeks. Butterflies symbolize hope, transformation and new beginnings. Enjoy butterflies! They are wonderful spirits here to bring us joy!!

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Dear Ms. Spiral Notebook

Dear Ms. Spiral Notebook,

My son has autism, and we are planning a family trip to an amusement park. He is sensitive to sounds and there are other factors that could impact his experience. Are there parks that are designed for this?

Yes, there is a comprehensive website:

<https://lloveny.com>

This site has a calendar of events and accessible opportunities.

Dear Ms. Spiral Notebook,

My late elementary child is failing to understand the concept of money because, well, we live in a world of swipe and the transaction is done. The kids naively think you just swipe and buy what you want. Ideas?

Ooh, a good question. It's as simple as giving your child a maximum of \$10.00 and a trip to the grocery store. You can level it up with making him/her do the math or provide a calculator. They can purchase anything they want but they can't go over. You will see your child adding and subtracting from their cart. Weighing their decisions to meet their wants.



Dear Ms. Spiral Notebook,

My child has weak fine motor skills. I know over the summer we have to work on this, but want to make it creative.

Sidewalk chalk for the win. Start out by finding some age-appropriate quotes and images; print them out and head to a local park. You will be creating art for others all while practicing the skill.

PARENTS AND TEACHERS: Have a question about your child's or student's education or learning? You may contact Ms. Spiral Notebook at waldoandtulip@optonline.net, with "Ms. Spiral Notebook" in the subject line. You may also fax your question to us at 631-808-3248, or mail it to her c/o The Waldo Tribune, P.O. Box 2587, Sag Harbor, NY 11963.

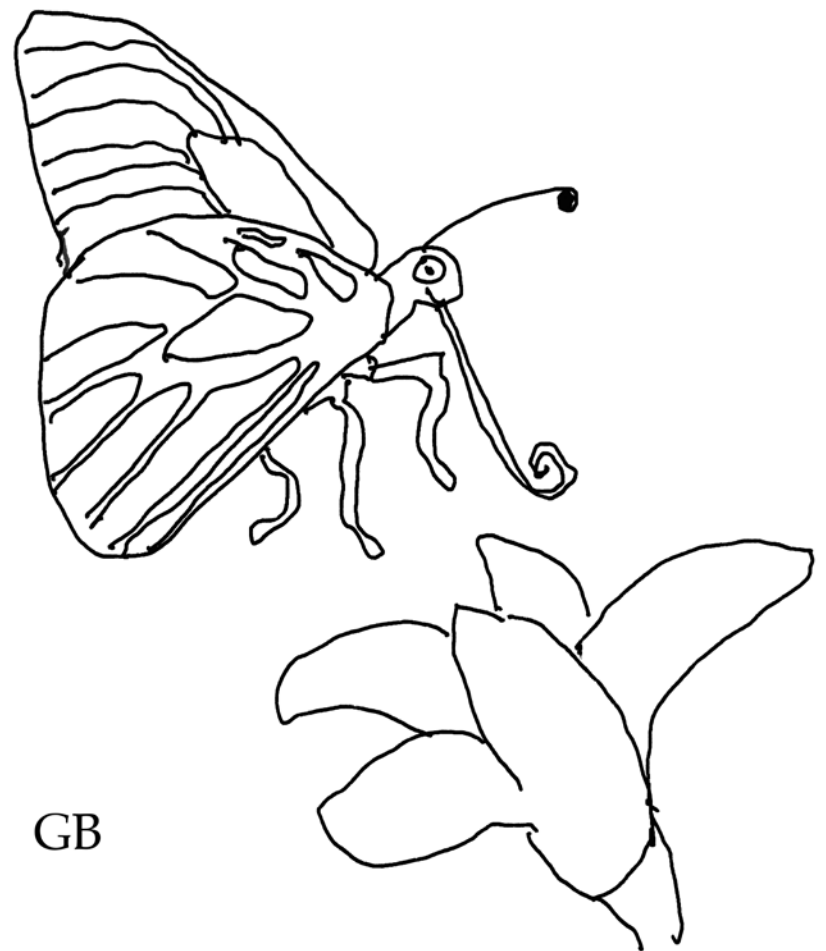


New Children's Room at the Hampton Library

We are so excited to welcome everyone back to the Hampton Library to see our new Children's and Young Adult spaces! Our Children's Room has been refreshed with beautiful new flooring, shelving, interactive toys, and furniture, while still keeping its unique charm and comfort. Get cozy with a book under our two magical trees that will surely transport you into a fantastical world of your own. Another new feature, "The Spot," is an exclusive area for our patrons in grades 3 to 5 to hang out and relax within the Children's room. The expanded Young Adult Room, for grades 6 to 12, has doubled in size and features new flooring, furniture, makerspace, and a gaming area (coming soon!).

Butterfly Jokes

written and illustrated by Greg Bullock



1. Why did the cows run to the dairy?

An: They wanted to see a butter-fly.

2. What butterfly wears a crown?

An: A Monarch butterfly.

3. What kind of butterfly goes to parties?

An: A social butterfly!

4. What did the caterpillar say when he went into his cocoon?

An: Pardon me while I get changed.

5. There once was a butterfly named Hector, that wanted to sip a lot of nectar.

He looked in a room

And found a big bloom,

That had plenty of nectar for Hector!

(See drawing.)

6. What did the butterfly say when it was in love?

An: I'm all a flutter.

7. Butterfly: Knock knock.

Cocoon: Who's there?

Butterfly: Butterfly.

Cocoon: "Butter fly" on, I'm not changed yet!

8. What are butterflies' favorite fruit?

An: Nectar-ines!



Kids Can Help Rescue Animals One Cup of Lemonade at a Time!

What if drinking a glass of lemonade could help save the life of a homeless puppy or kitten? This summer, kids all across the Hamptons are invited to join lemonARF, a fun fundraiser hosted by ARF Hamptons that lets children make a big difference for animals in need.

LemonARF works just like a regular lemonade stand. Kids set up a stand in their neighborhood, sell lemonade or other fun items, and donate the money they raise to help care for the more than 1,000 cats and dogs that come through the ARF Adoption Center each year.

This year, there is an extra special goal. ARF is raising money for a brand-new Mobile Adoption Van.

For the past 14 years, the current van has traveled throughout the Hamptons, Long Island, and nearby communities, helping thousands of rescue animals get to adoption events where they can meet families and find forever homes. But after so many miles on the road, the van needs to be replaced.

The good news is that ARF has already raised the first \$200,000 needed for the new vehicle. Now they are asking kids and the community to help raise the remaining funds to get the new van rolling.

Every child who signs up for lemonARF receives a free starter kit packed with fun supplies, including lemonade and cookie recipes, cups, customizable menus, ARF stickers, temporary tattoos, a donation bank, and more.

Kids can also get creative by selling homemade treats, artwork, jewelry, or crafts at their stand. Every participant who brings their donation to ARF will even be featured on ARF Hamptons (@arfhamptons) social media.

Not only is lemonARF a great way to spend a summer day with friends and family, but it also teaches kindness, compassion, and the joy of helping others.

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Butterflies of New York

by Moe Kennedy

of the South Fork Natural History Museum

Butterflies are one of our most well known and well loved insects, serving as pollinators for the flowers in our gardens and food for many different animals including birds, frogs, and even other bugs! Across different cultures, they serve as symbols of transformation, rebirth, freedom, and in many places as a representation of the soul.

Across the world, there are many different butterflies (and their cousins, the moths!). Butterflies have been on planet Earth for millions of years. Fossils show they've been around since the Paleocene era, about 56 million years ago. However, it is thought that our butterflies' ancestors may have been around since the time of the dinosaurs: about 200 million years ago. They can be found on every continent besides Antarctica, and in the United States alone we have about 750 different kinds. Across New York, we have butterflies in every color of the rainbow.

One of our most famous butterflies is the monarch, who makes a migration across North America every year. From Mexico in the spring, all the way up to Canada through the USA, then back down again for winter. These orange butterflies depend on a special plant called the milkweed. This is because the caterpillars that eat the milkweed leaves become toxic to birds and other predators. The bright orange color of the adult monarch butterfly also serves as a warning sign.

All butterflies go through a process called metamorphosis, where they change and grow from an egg to an adult. Starting as tiny eggs laid on the leaves of a butterfly's favorite plants, small caterpillars will hatch after about a couple weeks. As they grow, caterpillars spend pretty much all their time looking for and eating food. They need enough energy to grow up, eventually turning into a chrysalis. These insects may spend anywhere from a week to a month in their chrysalis before they pop out as an adult butterfly.

Caterpillars have strong mouth parts that help them break down leaves, and can have many different decorations on their bodies such as hairs, bumps, horns, or spines. These features all help the caterpillars protect themselves. Sometimes caterpillars' strategy to stay safe is to blend in with their surroundings, called camouflage. Stripes, earthy colors, and spines can all help them with this goal. Other times, a caterpillar is able to protect themselves by scaring off would-be predators like birds, frogs and toads, spiders, or even rodents using bright colors, fake eye spots, or sharp spines.

One famous example of a scare-tactic used by caterpillars is called mimicry. For example, the caterpillar of the spicebush swallowtail has big eye spots and a bright green color that makes it look like a snake. They can convince other animals they're dangerous by rearing up and moving side to side. They even have a red, Y-shaped organ on their head called an osmeterium, which mimics the snake's bright red tongue!

So what makes a butterfly and a moth different? Some key differences are that butterflies are active during the daytime, usually have brighter colors, and have thin, clubbed antennae. Moths are usually active at night, have duller colors that help them hide in the dark, and have feathery or fluffy-looking antennae that help them communicate with each other. There are also many more moths than butterflies in the world. About 180,000 types of Lepidopterans (the group butterflies and moths belong to) have been identified, but only about 18,000 of them are butterflies.

A few butterflies we like to search for in our gardens on Long Island are cabbage whites, tiger swallowtails, little wood satyrs, silver spotted skippers, the painted lady, and the NY state butterfly: the red-spotted purple.

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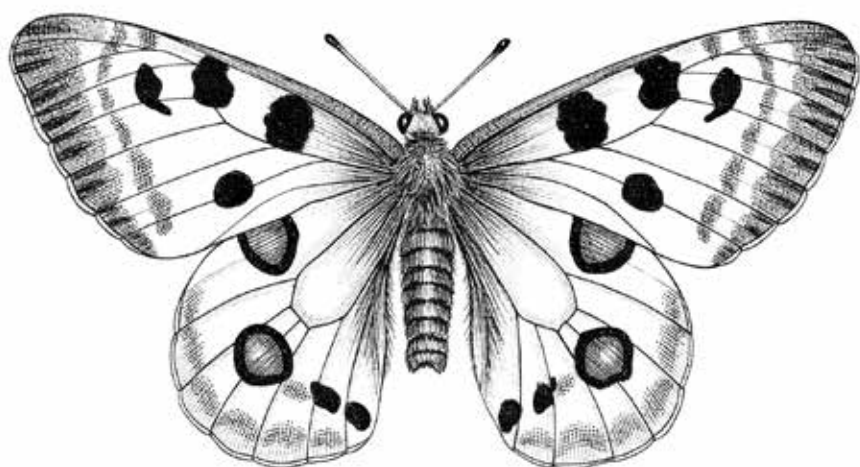
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Scientists Who Study Butterflies



by Paula Timpson

Scientists who study butterflies are called lepidopterists. They collect and study different species of butterflies.

Butterflies have thousands of tiny scales that overlap on their scaly wings. There is so much to research and learn about them.

The Lepidopterists Society is an organization that studies butterflies. Dr. Akito Kawahara is a butterfly scientist at the Florida Museum of Natural History in Gainesville, Florida. Dr. Nick Hadadd at Michigan State University studied the world's rarest butterflies.

Kids can become butterfly scientists' helpers by becoming butterfly breeders. Raising caterpillars, planting butterfly gardens, and taking part in official citizen science programs teaches kids real life lessons on butterfly transformation. Kids can add meaningful information to scientific research.

Scientists have discovered that butterflies taste with their feet and have liquid diets. Lepidopterists have learned how butterflies go through a magical transformation called metamorphosis.

Butterflies can see ultraviolet light. They see special hidden patterns on flowers that we cannot see. Butterflies are on every continent, except Antarctica, because they are cold blooded and need warm climates.

Butterfly science includes taxonomy and systematics which is identifying, naming and classifying new species using DNA and physical traits. Studying metamorphosis and memory investigates how butterflies transform from caterpillars and if memories can survive. It is amazing how butterflies have memories of being caterpillars.

Conservation ecology is protecting butterflies that are rare, helping their habitats remain and caring for how butterflies relate to plants that feed them. *(Write and/or call your Congressional Representative to urge them to pass laws to protect butterflies - Editor).*

Most lepidopterists have advanced degrees in biology. They work at big research centers, The Florida Museum McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity, one of the largest butterfly research centers in the world. It is located on the campus of the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida. Anyone can be a butterfly scientist's assistant by helping with research. You can tag monarchs or log species in nationwide programs like the North American Butterfly Monitoring Network. Have fun!!!



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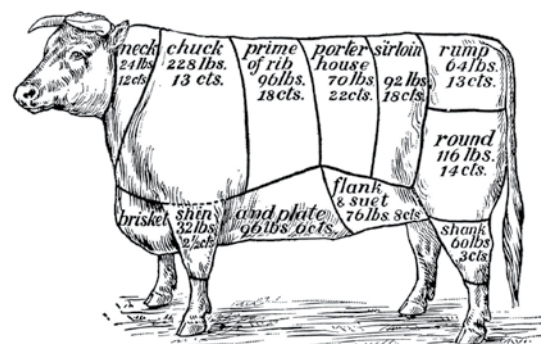
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Facts About Butterflies

by Christopher Clark

Butterflies are some of the most beautiful and fascinating creatures on Earth. With their colorful wings and gentle flight, they have captured people's attention for thousands of years. But there is much more to butterflies than their beauty.

Scientists believe that butterflies first appeared around 100 million years ago, during the age of the dinosaurs. They evolved from moth-like ancestors and spread across the world as flowering plants became more common. Today, there are more than 17,000 known species of butterflies living on every continent except Antarctica.

A butterfly's life begins as a tiny egg. The egg hatches into a caterpillar, which spends most of its time eating leaves and growing. After that, the caterpillar forms a chrysalis, also called a pupa. Inside the chrysalis, an amazing transformation takes place. The caterpillar changes into a butterfly, a process known as metamorphosis. When it emerges, it has wings and can fly.

Butterflies play an important role in nature. As they drink nectar from flowers, they help pollinate plants by carrying pollen from one flower to another. This helps many plants grow and reproduce.

One of the most famous butterflies is the Monarch butterfly. Every year, millions of Monarchs migrate thousands of miles between Canada, the United States, and Mexico. Some travel more than 3,000 miles, making it one of the longest insect migrations in the world.

Butterflies also have some surprising abilities. They can taste with sensors on their feet, and many species can see colors that humans cannot. Their wings are covered with thousands of tiny scales that create the bright colors and patterns we admire.

Although butterflies are found in many places, some species are threatened by habitat loss, pollution, and climate change. Planting flowers and protecting natural spaces can help these remarkable insects survive.

From their ancient history to their incredible life cycle, butterflies are truly one of nature's wonders. The next time you see one flutter by, remember that you are looking at a creature whose ancestors lived alongside dinosaurs!

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Endangered Butterflies

by Rosemary Szczygiel

Butterflies, like many incredible insects, are often threatened with the possibility of extinction. Extinction means they could become lost forever. Like dinosaurs, we would never see them living in our world again.

Despite their small size, insects like butterflies carry great importance. Without them, humans would lose the animal helpers they really need, and be threatened with extinction, too. Besides being colorful and interesting, butterflies play an important part in helping plants produce the fruits and vegetables we eat. Do you think we really want to lose them?

Butterflies are pollinators. Like bumble bees, they carry pollen between flowering plants. Pollen is needed for certain plants to make seeds, and fruits. Butterflies bring beauty and wonder to our world, and benefits we can't afford to lose. Scientists report that in the last 20 years, the population of butterflies in the United States has decreased over 20 percent. Many types have declined in numbers by 50 percent or more. Loss of butterfly population seems to exceed any increase. That's a lot of butterflies we will never see again.

Five of the most rapidly declining types, also called species, are the Soldier Butterfly (Florida) Palmer's Metal Mark and Empress Leilia (Southwest); Common Mestra (Texas and South), and Hermes Copper (California). The Karner Blue, the official state butterfly of New Hampshire is listed as endangered. Other butterflies listed as endangered under the U.S. Endangered Species Act by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are the Miami Blue (South Florida), Saint Francis' Satyr (North Carolina), Fender's Blue (Oregon), Island marble (Pacific Northwest), Palos Verdes Blue, Quino Checkerspot, and Lange's Metalmark (California).

When it is listed as "threatened", they are close to being endangered. There is evidence the Monarch Butterfly is threatened. Our beloved Monarch Butterfly? The orange and black beauty that migrates long distances from the United States to Mexico, and that so many of us are familiar with? The first request to add the Monarch Butterfly to the Endangered Species List was made in 2014, and we're still waiting.

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Types of Butterflies

by Rosemary Szczygiel

How many types of butterflies are there? If we could name all the different types of butterflies in the world, we would run out of room for this story. We might run out of room if we used every page of this issue of *The Waldo Tribune*. That's because, according to the Smithsonian Institution, scientists have identified nearly 18,000 types of butterflies worldwide.

To make it easier to remember all those types of butterflies, also called "species", scientists group them into major families like Brush-footed, Swallowtails, Whites and Sulphurs, Gossamer-winged, Skippers, and more. Monarch butterflies, the orange and black butterflies you may have seen, are in the Brush-footed family.

Of all the types of butterflies, about 575 have been identified in the United States. In New York state, you could see over 100 types. Across Long Island you could see as many as 60.

To make it easier, let's stick to types you are likely to discover in local parks, gardens, and in your backyard during spring, summer and fall. That's still a lot of different butterflies to see.

It's important to know that moths are closely related to butterflies, but are different. Big moths are sometimes mistaken as butterflies, and they can also be very cool to discover.

Among the types of butterflies identified in New York and on Long Island are the Monarch, Red Admiral, Painted Lady, Blue Azure, Pearl Crescent, Cabbage White, Orange Sulphur, Black Swallowtail, Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, and Silver-Spotted Skipper.

If you like to be outside in nature, there is a good chance you could see the Monarch, Cabbage White, Orange Sulphur, Blue Azure, Black or Eastern Tiger Swallowtail. There is even a chance you could see the famous Painted Lady or Red Admiral butterfly.

No matter how common or exotic, seeing butterflies in nature is a welcome treat. If you want to know more about butterflies outdoors, the South Fork Natural History Museum and Nature Center in Bridgehampton offers resources and guidance. It is also a great experience to visit a butterfly museum where you can see and learn about types of butterflies from around the world. There are butterfly museums around the country you can visit, and you will find one in Riverhead at the Long Island Aquarium. Learning the different types of butterflies is a big project, one you might really enjoy.

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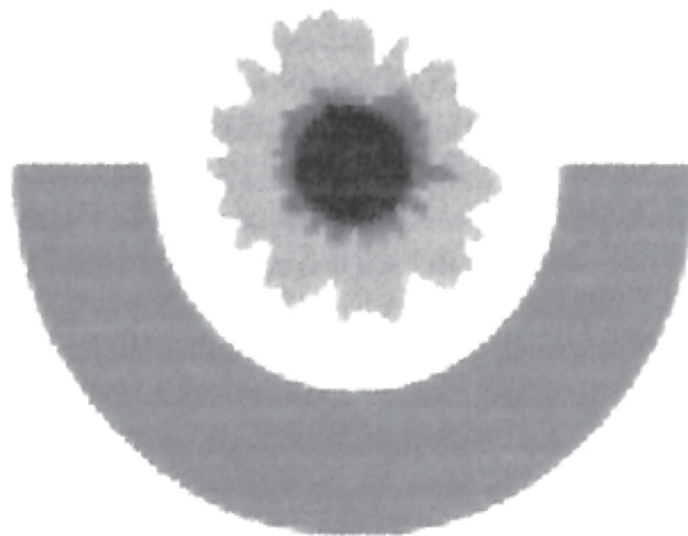
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How to Make a Butterfly Garden

by Paula Timpson

Butterfly gardens are magical. Sweet nectar attracts butterflies to come and enjoy the gardens. A sunny place is needed, with lots of nectar flowers. Six hours of sunlight is best.

Butterflies are cold blooded, so they need lots of sunshine to warm their wings for flight. Try to make a butterfly garden safe from wind. Choose flowers with large, flat petals. They are easy for butterflies to land on and stay steady.

Two types of plants are important to help butterflies survive. Nectar plants for the adult butterflies and host plants for the caterpillars. Group plants together with the same colors so butterflies can easily spot them from above while flying. Plant some taller shrubs for butterflies to gather in when it rains.

A log pile is good too for shelter. Place light-colored flat rocks in your garden. They warm up in the sun and give butterflies a nice place to rest in warmth. A butterfly garden does not need to be huge. A 100-square-foot bed is fine. Ten feet by ten feet is a great size.

Do not use pesticides. Pesticides will kill all. Shallow water places are good. Mud puddles are nice for butterfly drinks. Butterflies cannot drink from birdbaths because they might drown. Females get water from nectar. Male butterflies need minerals from water, to get salt and amino acids. Males do "puddling." They gather on damp dirt, sand or shallow water to drink. You may place shallow bowls of water in your garden to help male butterflies drink.

Monarch butterflies need milkweed. Swallowtails like dill, parsley fennel and milkweed. Painted Ladies like thistle and sunflowers. Butterfly gardens are fun to watch and explore. Enjoy butterfly gardens!!!!



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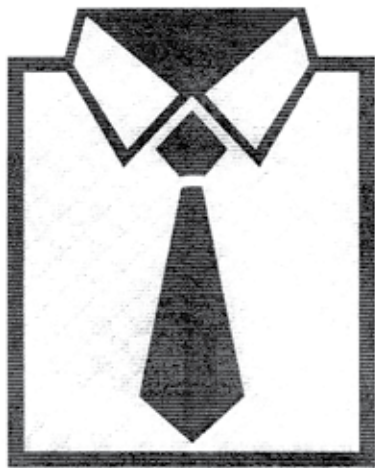
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Why Butterflies Are Important

by Debbie Tuma

Hey Kids! Have you ever seen a butterfly? They usually fly around flowers outside. Do you know why they are important? Butterflies are needed to pollinate flowers, meaning they fly from flower to flower, collecting pollen and transferring it to other flowers. The pollen is like dust, which sticks to them and then ends up in other plants and flowers. This called "plant fertilization." It helps to produce seeds, fruits and vegetables.

Do you know how fragile a butterfly is? Another reason they are so important is that they are very sensitive to climate change, changes in temperature, and also in habitat. Scientists can track their populations to see the health of the nature around them, known as "ecosystems."

Without butterflies, there would be less variety of plants, and then it would affect the animals who eat the plants, and depend on them for shelter. You should never touch a butterfly, because they are very fragile and you could damage their wings. They have a sort of "dust" on their wings which helps them fly, and if you rub it off, they might have trouble flying and pollinating the flowers.

The butterflies have to deal with many hardships, like bad weather, animals, and people. In the wild, only about 5% survive to adulthood. Butterflies are very special because they can start out as caterpillars and completely change into butterflies, which is called a "metamorphosis." They go through a four-stage transformation from a crawling caterpillar to a winged insect.

They also fly further than many bees, so they help connect plant populations. Butterflies have six legs, four wings, and taste food using their feet! They are on every continent in the world except Antarctica. Butterflies are very colorful for a reason—the bright colors on their wings help them hide from enemies, like hungry birds. They also have super vision, seeing patterns on flowers that are invisible to the human eye. This is why butterflies are so important—so if you see one, don't touch or hurt it.

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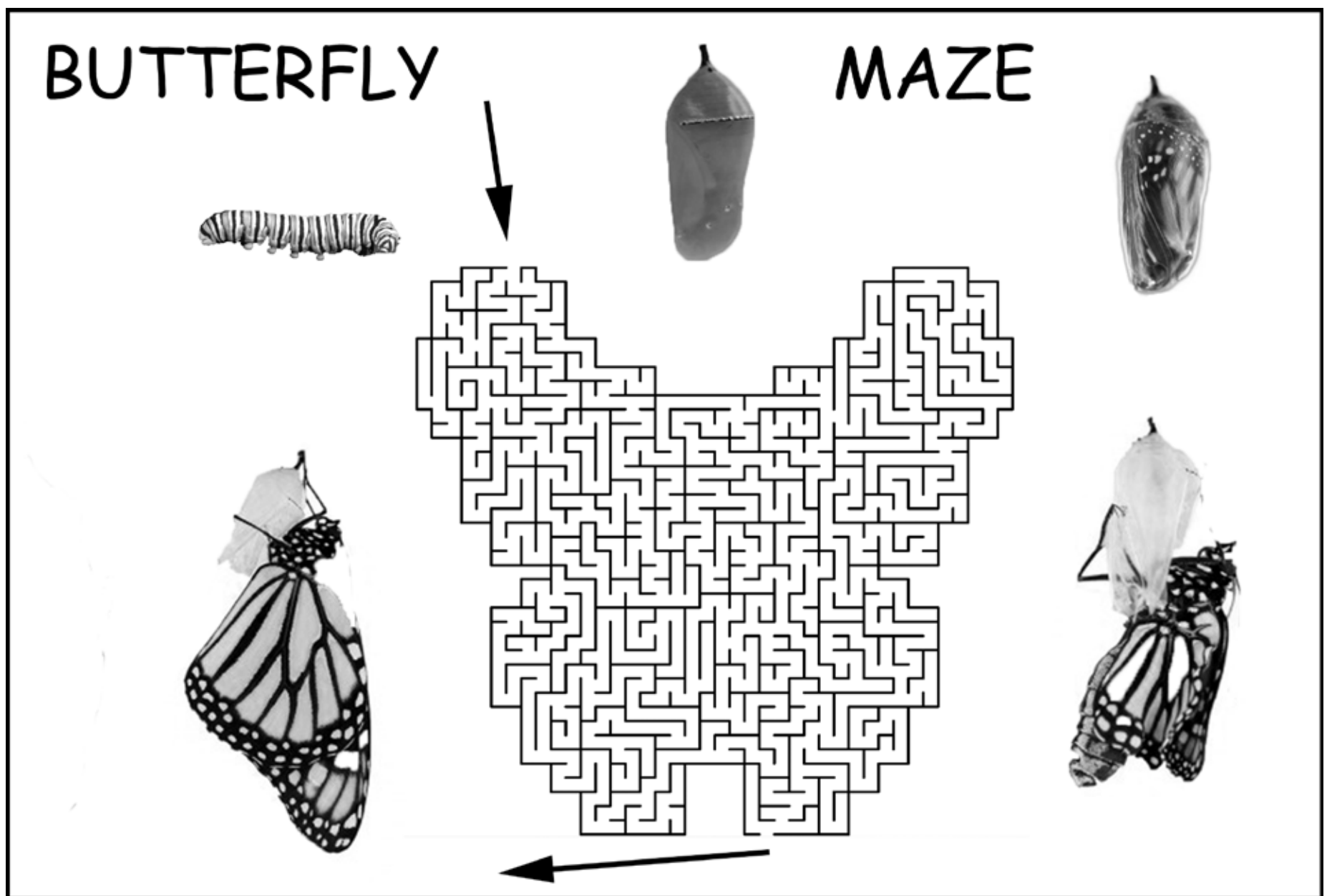
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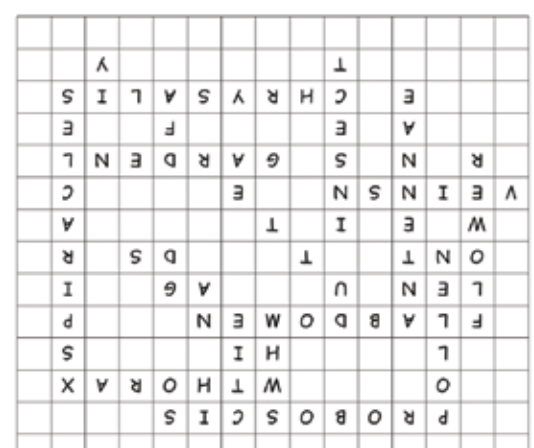
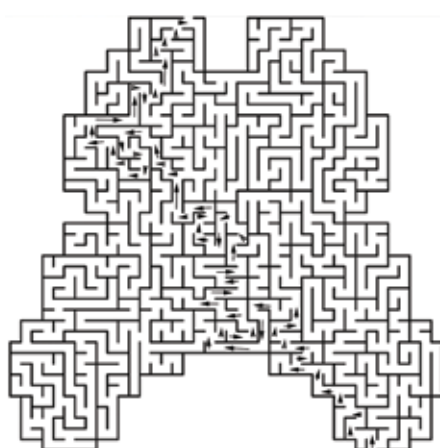
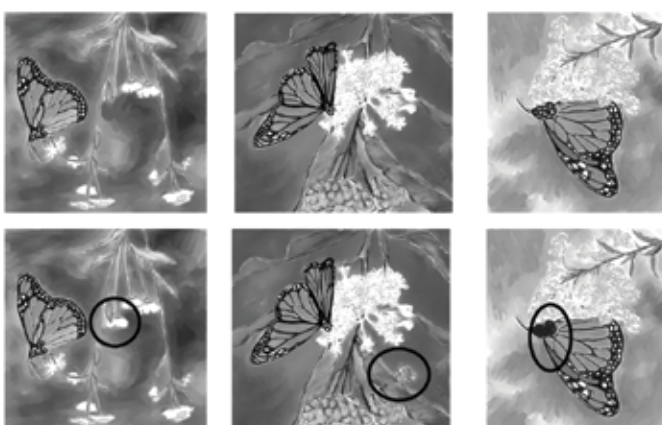
Their names are Zelig and Shimon Baumgarten. Zelig is 10 and Shimon is seven. They each want to grow up and be a rabbi like their father and grandfather. They both love baseball and love to ride their bicycles. They both love to swim and play games like hide and seek. Shimon says he loves the whole world. They both love their mommy and daddy very much and they love to read *The Waldo Tribune*.

Love from
Zelig and Shimon Baumgarten



Answers to the Butterfly Issue Puzzles (Turn Upside Down)

puzzles by KarenLise Bjerring



Monarch Triptych - What three things are different?



Goldenrod



Milkweed



Fleabane

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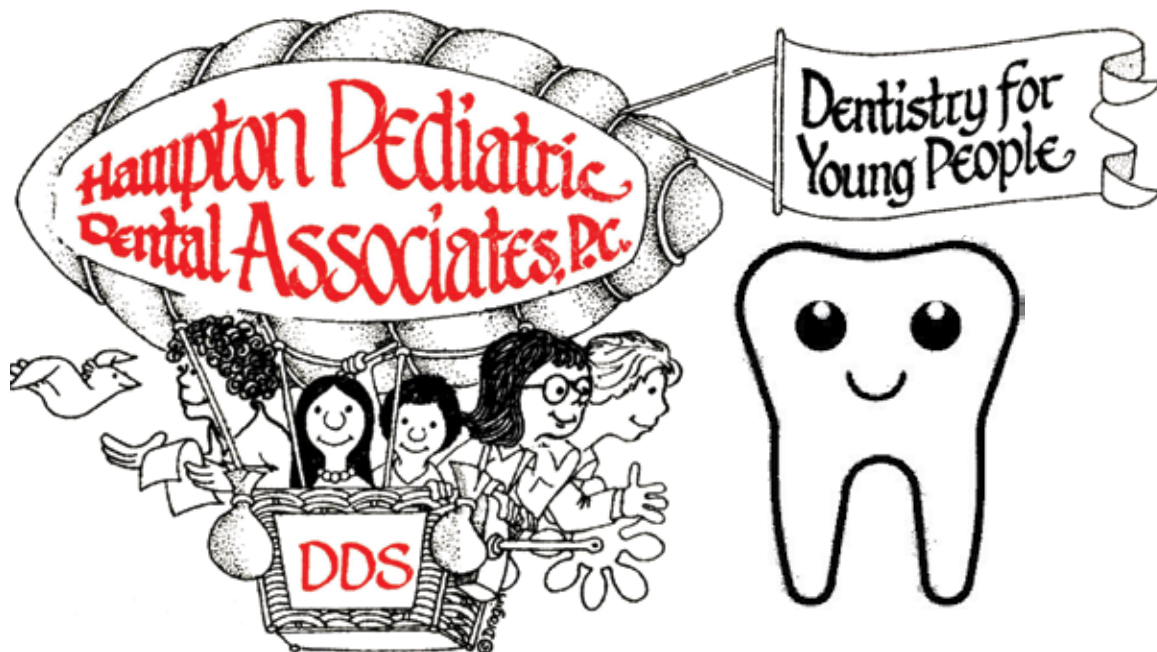
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