BUTTERFLIES, BUTTERFLIES EVERYWHERE

BY JOANNA ABEL

Best for grades: K—3

PA Standards Aligned:

**CC1.4K-5.U:** With some guidance and support use technology to produce and publish writing

**9.1.3-5.A:** Know & use the elements & principles of each art form to create works in the arts & humanities
PRETTY PAPER BUTTERFLIES

Celebrate the arrival of spring with these colorful creations!

Materials: paper bag scissors, and markers/crayons/pencils/paint etc

Cut the paper bag apart so it lays flat and fold it in half. With the fold in the center, draw half of a butterfly. With it still folded, cut out the butterfly, creating a whole one. Draw shapes on one side, then repeat them on the other side. Tip: draw in pencil first so you can erase as needed. Color in the negative space whatever color you like.

Using whatever medium you want, markers, paint, crayons, etc color in the shapes on your butterfly’s wings. Try to create a symmetrical pattern using multiple colors.

Hang your butterflies in a window or stick them on the wall for a fun pop of color.

Write 3 – 4 descriptive words about your butterflies.
PLAYFUL BUTTERFLY PUPPETS

Now that you have made a butterfly, let’s make them fly!

**Materials:** newspaper or other large paper, tape, and paper butterflies

First, lay out 2 – 3 sheets of newspaper on a flat surface. Then, begin rolling it up diagonally until you have a long tube of paper. Make sure it is tight and does not flop over when you hold it upright.

Next, use some tape to keep it from unrolling. Then, make a loop of tape and stick it on the end of your paper roll. Finally, stick the butterfly onto the tape. Viola, butterfly puppet

Once your puppet is complete, write 2 – 3 sentences describing how it moves.

Does your butterfly dance on the wind? Maybe it lightly flutters to the ground, or soars in the sun?
AN ODE TO A BUTTERFLY

Let's use our butterflies as inspiration for some poems

Materials: pencil/pen, paper, and butterflies for inspiration

Get out some paper and your favorite writing implement and try your hand at writing a haiku or a couplet.

Haiku: a Japanese poem that has 3 unrhymed lines with 5 syllables in line 1, 7 syllables in line 2, and 5 in line 3, for a total of 17 syllables. Haiku say a lot without using very many words.

Examples of haiku inspired by butterflies:

sunny blue sky days gently on the petal
rainbows on delicate wings sipping the nectar so sweet
butterflies are back flutter, flutter, fly

Couplet: two poetic lines of about the same length that rhyme. Multiple couplets can be put together to form a longer poem, creating the rhyme scheme: AA, BB, CC, etc

Examples of couplets inspired by butterflies:

Butterflies, flittering by, Soft and light
Jewels in the bright blue sky butterflies take flight

Tip: if you are having difficulty finding your poems, start by writing down some descriptive words. Once you have some listed, count the syllables of the words (for haiku) and look for rhymes (for couplets)

Once you have written your poems, share them with a family member or friend by reading them out loud

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BUTTERFLY YOGA!

Let’s move our bodies and have some fun physically exploring the life cycle of a butterfly.

**Materials:** yoga mat or towel and room to move

Everyone should find their own space & remember to breathe, relax, and just move as much as you can.

**Egg:** Lie on your back and pull your knees into you chest to form an egg shape. Rock right to left to stretch.

**Caterpillar:** place your arms over your head and stretch our whole body, wiggle your torso side to side to stretch

**Chrysalis:** go up on your shoulders and hold your legs in the air. Be sure to support your lower back.

**Butterfly:** emerge from your cocoon, stretch your wings, stand up and fly!