



Nature Play at Home – Lesson Plan

Lesson Title: **Beautiful Butterflies**

Supplies Needed: balloons, paper plates, markers, glue stick, green paper (leaf), white beans, rotini pasta, shell pasta, bowtie pasta, cupcake liners, clothespins, pipe cleaners

Lesson Activities:

Play quick intro game: *Balloon Caterpillar Race*

Supplies: Balloons and Pylons

1. Divide your family into two teams. Each person gets a balloon in between them and the person in front of them and behind them. Set up a designated finish line (using pylons)
2. The first team to get to the finish line without dropping any balloons wins. If a balloon is dropped, they must start over from the beginning.
3. If the kids think it is fun, you can do this more than once.



Lesson:

- Ask your kids what they know about butterflies (do they know the link between caterpillars and butterflies?)
 - Hold up a picture of a caterpillar and then a butterfly. Ask: *Do you know how these two animals are alike?* And explain to the participants that they are the same animal, even though they look very different. This animal changes (*metamorphoses*) over its life cycle. Ask: *What does that mean?*
 - Next, explain that we will be learning each stage of the butterfly's life. Share the words *egg*, *caterpillar*, *chrysalis*, and *butterfly* with the children. Ask them what order of the life cycle they think the words go in?
 - Share with the participants that the animal's main activity in each stage using visuals. Ask the participants what order they think the life cycle of a butterfly is based on the pictures. Ex: what picture do you believe is of the egg?
 1. *Egg: Growing and developing*
 2. *Caterpillar: Eating*
 3. *Chrysalis: Changing form*
 4. *Butterfly: Eating and reproducing*
 - After that, ask the participants what the life cycle of the butterfly is.
 - Next, make the life cycle of a butterfly activity on a paper plate using pasta.
- Supplies: Paper plates, markers, glue sticks, green paper (leaf), white beans, rotini pasta, shell pasta, bowtie pasta.
1. Using a marker, write "Life Cycle of a Butterfly" at the top and divide the plate into four sections.
 2. Have the participants glue a green construction paper (leaf) in each section. Next, the white beans on the top left, one rotini

pasta on the top right, one shell pasta on the bottom right, and one bowtie on the bottom left. Glue.

3. Label each quadrant the correct terms which were discussed previously (egg, caterpillar, chrysalis, butterfly).



Craft: Make your own butterfly.

Supplies: Cupcake liners, clothespins, glue, pipe cleaners, markers

1. Open 2 cupcake liners and fold them in half, then fold them again and glue them together so they look like a bowtie.
2. Colour the clothespin and cupcake liners. Place clothespin over the cupcake liners.



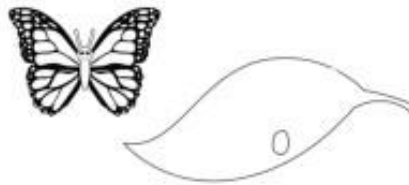
Videos on the butterfly life cycle:

- https://youtu.be/3o_nE1X014U
- <https://youtu.be/hTE6nN5R4Cw>

The Butterfly Life Cycle



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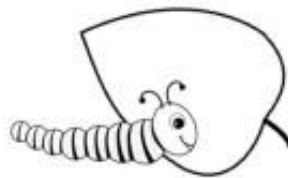
A butterfly lays a tiny egg on a leaf.

1



The egg hatches. A small caterpillar comes out.

2



The caterpillar starts to eat. It eats many leaves.

3