



School Program Descriptions:

Saginaw Bay Visitor Center
Bay City State Recreation Area

Butterflies are Blooming

Level: 2nd Grade

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

Students this program has been designed as a Stewardship Action Program to teach students about Michigan's Butterflies, their habitat requirements and their struggle for survival. An important part of this program is to involve the students in a butterfly habitat improvement project for their own backyard or your schoolyard! Students will take a close look at Michigan's butterflies, butterfly metamorphosis, and butterfly habitat requirements through an instructional slide-talk presentation. Next, students participate in a butterfly ID lab, where they learn how to use a simple field guide to identify adult butterflies and their caterpillars. Through this activity they are introduced to the basic families of wetland butterflies in our area. Students then review butterfly habitat requirements and each constructs a butterfly house to provide shelter for butterflies. In conclusion, students take a short hike through the wet prairie searching for insect signs and butterfly habitat. Each student will receive a large package of wildflower seeds to take back to the classroom and divide up among the students to start a food source for butterflies in their own yards or the school yard.

PROGRAM GOALS:

Designed to stimulate awareness and appreciation for butterflies and their wetland habitat.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

1. Students will be able to identify three butterflies using a Butterfly Field Guide.
2. Students will be able to list three things a butterfly needs to survive.
3. Students will be able to distinguish between butterflies and moths.
4. Students will be able to define metamorphosis and list two animals which go through it.
5. Students will build a butterfly house.
6. Students will improve a site for butterfly habitat.
7. Students will be able to list one reason butterflies are protected.

PRE-VISIT SUGGESTIONS:

1. ***Each student must bring a coffee can and a lid to the program. Cans should be spray painted white or tan ahead of time.***
2. Be sure that every student is dressed for the weather conditions. It can be 5-10 degrees cooler next to the Saginaw Bay. (Bring a box of square bottomed trash bags for an emergency rain poncho).
3. Read aloud to your class See How They Grow – Butterfly, Mary Ling, DK Publishing, New York, NY.
4. Discuss the meaning of the words: species, camouflage, hibernation, migration, predator, prey, habitat
5. Have each student draw a picture of a butterfly, then when they return have them draw another picture of a another butterfly. Do the pictures look different?
6. Project WILD: *What's for Dinner?* –students list and analyze sources of food; *My Kingdom for a Shelter* –Students create replicas of wildlife shelters.
- 7.

POST-VISIT SUGESTIONS:

1. Draw a class "Wet Meadow" mural where each student draws a butterfly feeding upon a flower nectar, caterpillars eating leaves, butterflies puddling and drinking water, and butterflies in their shelter.
2. Order painted lady butterfly chrysalis's or caterpillars from Carolina Biological Supply. Have the students record changes they see each day until metamorphosis occurs. Release the butterflies in your school yard or their own butterfly garden at home.

3. Project WILD: *Let's Go Fly a Kite* – have the students design butterfly kites; *Wildlife is Everywhere* – students search their environment for evidence of wildlife; *Oh Deer!* – students play an action game where they look for food, water and shelter; give it a new twist and play it as “Oh, Butterfly!”.

COORDINATING WITH THE MICHIGAN SCIENCE GRADE LEVEL CONTENT EXPECTATIONS:

Science. Inquiry Process, S.IP.02.11, S.IP.02.12, S.IP.02.13, S.IP.02.14, S.IP.02.14, S.IP.02.15, S.IP.02.16,

Science. Inquiry Analysis & Communications: S.IA.02.12, S.IA.02.13, S.IA.02.14,

Science . Reflection & Social Implications: S.RS.02.11, S.RS.02.13, S.RS.02.15, S.RS.02.16,

Life Science. Organization of Living Things: L.OL.02.14, L.OL.02.22, L.OL.03.32, L.OL.03.41, L.OL.03.42

Life Science. Evolution:

L.EV.03.11, L.EV.03.12

Life Science. Heredity:

L.HE.02.13

Earth Science. Earth Systems:

E.ES.03.41, E.ES.03.42, E.ES.03.43, E.ES.03.52

Physical Science. Properties of Matter:

P.PM.03.52

COORDINATING WITH M.E.A.P. SOCIAL STUDIES CONTENT STANDARD BENCHMARKS:

Geographic Perspective

II.1—e.e.2

II.2—e.e.1, e.e.2, e.e.3

II.4—e.e.1, e.e.3

II.5—e.e.1

Economic Perspective

IV.1—e.e.2

Inquiry

V.1—e.e.2