

**Be
Curious**

Make your own...

Fluttering butterfly



**UNIVERSITY
OF LEEDS**

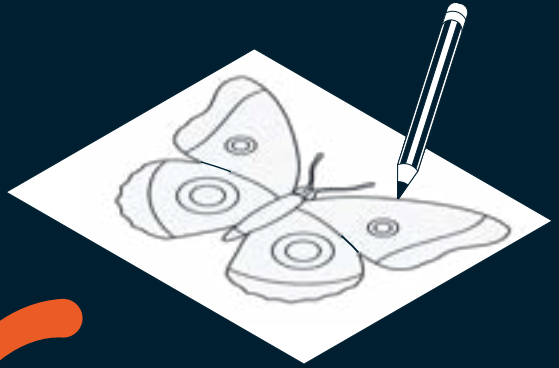
You will need:

- Cardboard or paper
- Scissors
- Colouring pencils or pens
- Sticky tape
- Two sticks (Chopsticks would work great!)

Instructions

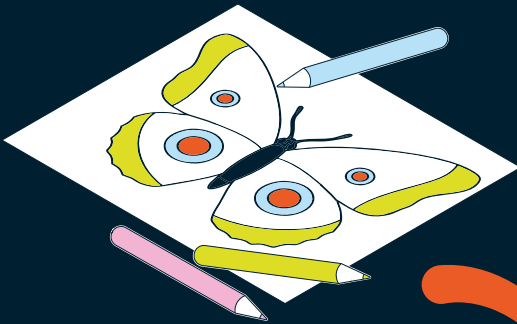
1. Draw

Draw a butterfly shape on your card or paper. Try to make it as symmetrical as possible. You could also print an outline of a butterfly.



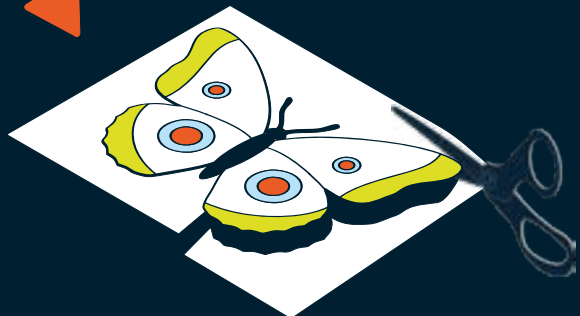
2. Decorate

Use your colouring pencils or pens to decorate your butterfly. Be as creative as you want! You could also add other decorations like glitter.



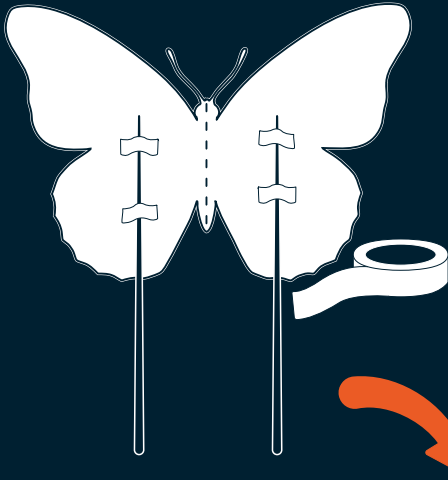
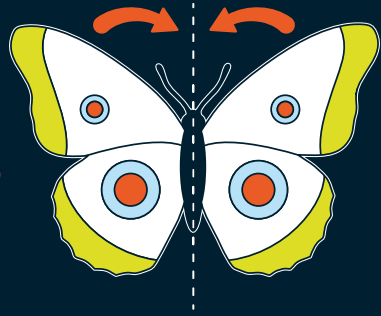
3. Cut out

Using your scissors, carefully cut around the outline of your butterfly. Ask an adult if you need some help.



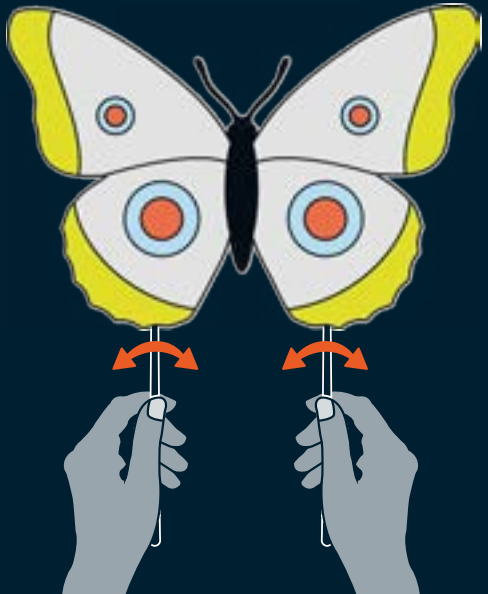
4. Fold

To help your butterfly's wings flap, fold it in half down the middle.



5. Stick

Turn your butterfly over so that the back is facing you. Using some sticky tape, secure a stick on each of the butterfly's wings.



6. Let's fly!

Hold on to the two sticks and gently move them together and apart to make your butterfly's wings flap!

Now try this!

Find out which butterflies live in the UK. Choose your favourite and make your own to match it. You could write your best butterfly facts on the back.



Inspired by research

Some butterflies in the UK are doing really well, like the Comma Butterfly which has spread far and wide since the 1970s. But some species are struggling. In fact, 8 out of 10 butterflies and many moths are becoming less common.

Why? It's a mix of problems. Some caterpillars only eat certain plants, like violets, which are disappearing. Warmer winters are confusing butterflies like the Wall Brown, they come out too early and miss their chance to lay eggs. Hot weather can also be dangerous—unlike us, butterflies can't sweat or cool down, so heatwaves can harm them.

But it isn't all sad. Butterflies and moths help pollinate flowers and are food for birds and bats. They help scientists understand how healthy our environment and nature is.

You can help too by joining the Big Butterfly Count, planting butterfly-friendly flowers, and protecting our green spaces. Every flutter matters – for nature and for future generations.

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