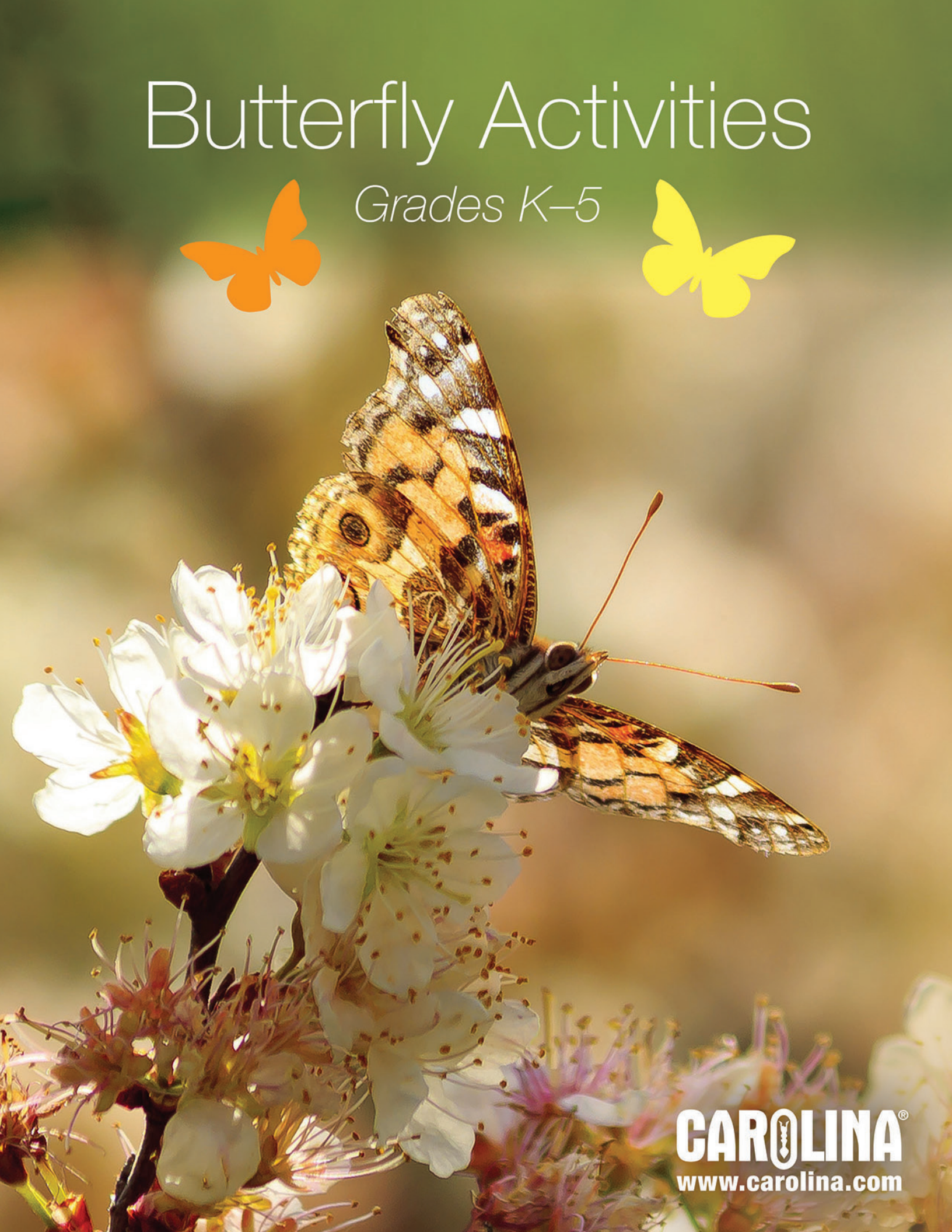
Butterfly Activities

Grades K–5



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Introduction

Overview

Butterflies demonstrate many important principles and concepts of biology, including life cycles, food chains, animal behavior, and structure and function. The painted lady butterfly *(Vanessa cardui),* commonly found throughout North America, is widely used in science classes. Painted lady larvae pupate and emerge as adult butterflies in about 30 days, which makes this organism an excellent choice to study metamorphosis. Painted ladies have four main life cycle stages: egg, larval, pupal (chrysalis), and adult.

The activities in this book provide an opportunity to integrate the study of butterflies into your curriculum. Students will observe the painted lady butterfly as it grows from larva to pupa to adult. Students will make measurements, record changes in development, and learn the anatomy of the painted lady as they complete these fun and educational learning activities.

Related Resources

Get a close-up view of the larval, pupal, and adult stages in our Butterfly Product Feature Video.

For information on the care of painted lady butterflies, view our interactive care guide. We strongly recommend reading these care instructions prior to ordering if you have never raised butterflies before.

We also recommend watching How to Care for Painted Lady Cultures, which answers some frequently asked questions about painted ladies.

Use our Painted Lady Butterfly Infographic to add extra color to your classroom. This serves as a helpful teaching tool as you discuss the various life cycle stages of the butterfly with your students.

Safety

Ensure that students understand and adhere to safe laboratory practices when performing any activity in the classroom or lab. Demonstrate the protocol for correctly using the instruments and materials necessary to complete the activities and emphasize the importance of proper usage.

Materials

The activities in this book are meant to be completed while observing the life cycle of the painted lady butterfly. Butterfly kits and larvae can be purchased at Carolina.com. If this is your first time raising butterflies, we recommend using our Butterflies in the Classroom Kit, which includes butterfly larvae for a class of 30

students and the materials necessary to raise the caterpillars to adults. In subsequent years, we recommend using our Butterflies in the Classroom Kit Refill, which also contains enough larvae and materials for a class of 30 students. If you are working with a smaller class size, we recommend our Butterflies in the Classroom Demo Kit, which contains enough larvae and materials for 10 students to raise the caterpillars to adults.

In addition to the butterfly larvae, students will need:

- Photocopies of the student pages found in Part 2 of this e-book
- Writing utensils
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- Colored pencils, markers, or crayons
- Brass paper fastener
- Ruler (optional)

Butterfly Crafts Materials:

- Short pieces of pantyhose (10" long)
- Wiggle eyes (or buttons)
- Paper or tissue, or other lightweight stuffing material
- Food coloring
- Coffee filters
- Droppers
- Pipe cleaners
- Magnets
- Black T-Shirt paint
- Other colors of T-Shirt paint
- Fabric markers
- Shallow pans
- Poster board or shirts
- Hot glue gun (optional)

★★★★★

"I have used the classroom butterfly kit with my 2nd graders for many years. It is an awesome way to teach students about the life cycle of the butterfly in a real, hands-on way. They are able to 'take care' of their own caterpillar and watch it go through each stage. They get so excited when their butterflies begin to emerge."

-Tina, Elementary Teacher
Sumter, SC

Part 1: Teacher Instructions

Activities

Painted Lady Observation

Materials:

- Painted Lady Observation sheet (one sheet for each day of observation)
- Writing utensil
- Larvae
- Ruler (optional)

Have students fill out a Painted Lady Observation sheet two or three times per week. To complete the sheet, students simply observe the butterfly in its current stage of development and draw what they see. Encourage them to draw to scale so that the drawings can be used later to discuss and compare the rate of development. It is important that students not handle the larvae any more than is necessary. Natural oils from fingers may harm the larvae. Any students who may be working on measurements should hold a ruler close to the larvae container and eyeball their measurements, noting any changes they observed.


Student Sheet

Name _____

Date _____

Painted Lady Observation

How many days has it been since your first observation? _____

Draw a picture of what your larva or chrysalis or adult looks like today. Try to draw it life size. Beside the life-size drawing, you may draw a magnified view.

What size is your painted lady today? _____

What have you observed about your painted lady today?

What has changed about your painted lady since your last observation?

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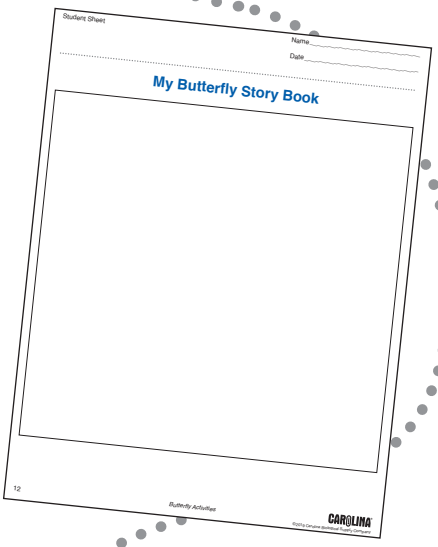
Butterfly Activities 11

My Butterfly Story Book

Materials:

- My Butterfly Story Book cover and related pages (larvae, chrysalis, adult)
- Writing utensil
- Colored pencils, markers, or crayons

Students can compile their sheets to make their My Butterfly Story Book. At the top of each page of the book they should draw the stage of the life cycle. They should write about the stage of the butterfly on the lines below their drawing. For younger students, this may be a single descriptive word or series of unconnected words. For older students, it may be a sentence or even a paragraph. This provides students with a permanent record of their study once their butterflies are gone, and it can be used for sharing what they have learned.


Student Sheet

Name _____

Date _____

My Butterfly Story Book

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Butterfly Activities

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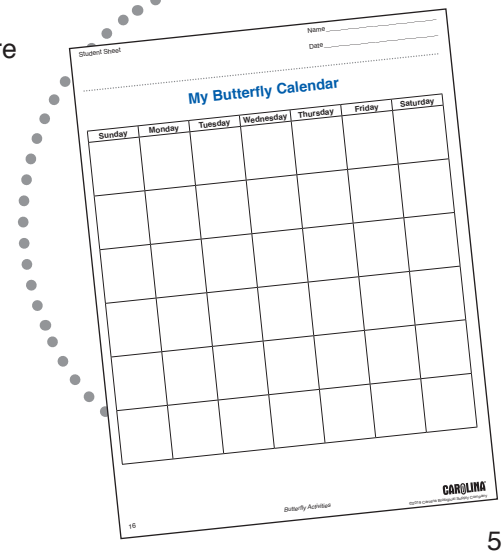
My Butterfly Calendar

Materials:

- My Butterfly Calendar sheet
- Writing utensil
- Larvae

Students can observe and record butterfly growth and development with the My Butterfly Calendar. Help them focus on the days of the week and how long it takes for changes to be evident. Encourage students to write something descriptive each day about their butterflies.


Student Sheet

Name _____

Date _____

My Butterfly Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday

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Butterfly Activities

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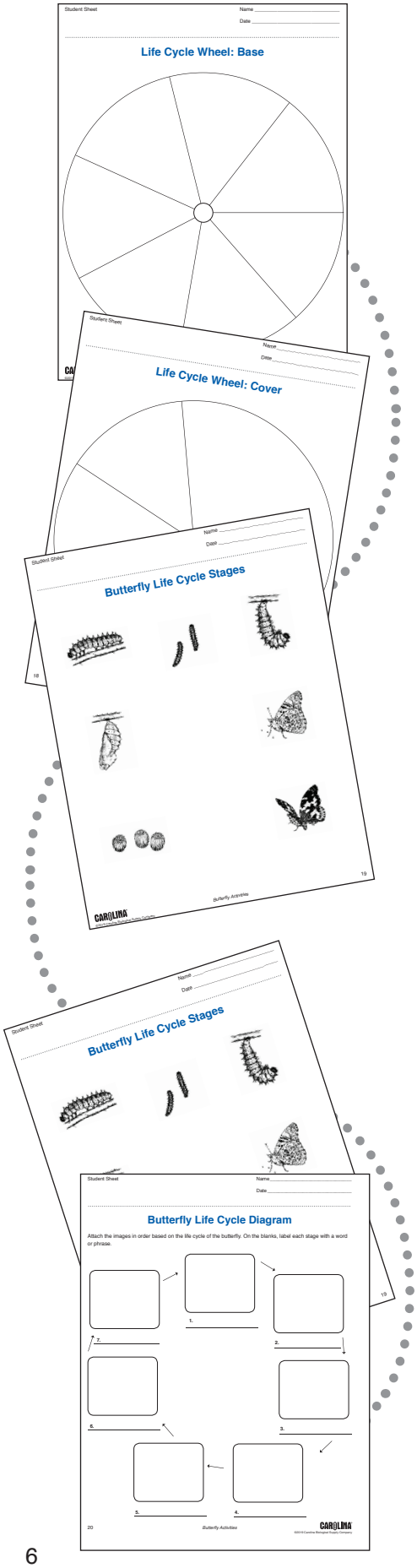


Life Cycle Wheel

Materials:

- Life Cycle Wheel: Base sheet
- Life Cycle Wheel: Cover sheet
- Butterfly Life Cycle Stages sheet
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- Brass fastener

Students can use a life cycle wheel to help them organize their knowledge and review what they have learned about the butterfly life stages. Students should complete as much of the work as is appropriate for their skill level.

How to Make a Life Cycle Wheel:

1. Copy both of the Life Cycle Wheel templates (Base and Cover). The parts can be laminated or pasted on heavier paper to make them more durable.
2. Copy the Butterfly Life Cycle Stages sheet.
3. Cut out the life cycle wheel base.
4. Cut out pictures of the egg, larva, chrysalis, and adult butterfly from the Butterfly Life Cycle Stages sheet.
5. Glue the life cycle pictures onto the sections of the wheel base in order clockwise, beginning with eggs and ending with an adult butterfly.
6. Cut out the wheel cover. Be sure to cut out the window of the cover.
7. Place the cover over the wheel base. Push a brass paper fastener through the center of the cover and the wheel base to connect the two. The life cycle wheel is now complete.

There are several ways to use the life cycle wheel. You might have the student rotate the cover to a stage of the life cycle and tell you about that stage. You might instead use the wheel to show a student a stage of the life cycle and ask what comes before or after.

Life Cycle Diagram

Materials:

- Butterfly Life Cycle Stages sheet
- Butterfly Life Cycle Diagram sheet
- Scissors
- Glue or tape

Students can complete a Butterfly Life Cycle Diagram to organize and review their knowledge of butterflies. Have students cut out the different stages on the Butterfly Life Cycle Stages sheet and paste or tape them onto the Butterfly Life Cycle Diagram. This activity can serve as a preview before students observe all the stages of the life cycle or it can follow the lesson as an evaluation.

Butterfly Anatomy

Materials:

- Butterfly Anatomy sheet
- The Butterfly Glossary sheet

Students can build vocabulary by learning the correct terms for butterfly anatomy using the Butterfly Anatomy sheet. Have them label the main body parts of the larva and adult butterfly using correct terminology. They can look up the description of each part in The Butterfly Glossary. Depending on your students' abilities, you may wish to exclude some of these words and focus on a smaller set of words.

Butterfly Word Searches

Materials:

- Butterfly Word Search 1 sheet
- Butterfly Word Search 2 sheet
- Butterfly Word Search 3 sheet

Use these word search puzzles for word practice. Make sure to give students the appropriate word search puzzle for their skill level.

- Word Search 1: Beginner level
- Word Search 2: Intermediate level
- Word Search 3: Advanced level

Butterfly Word Practice

Materials:

- My Butterfly Words sheet
- Butterflies—Fill in the Blank sheet
- The Butterfly Glossary sheet

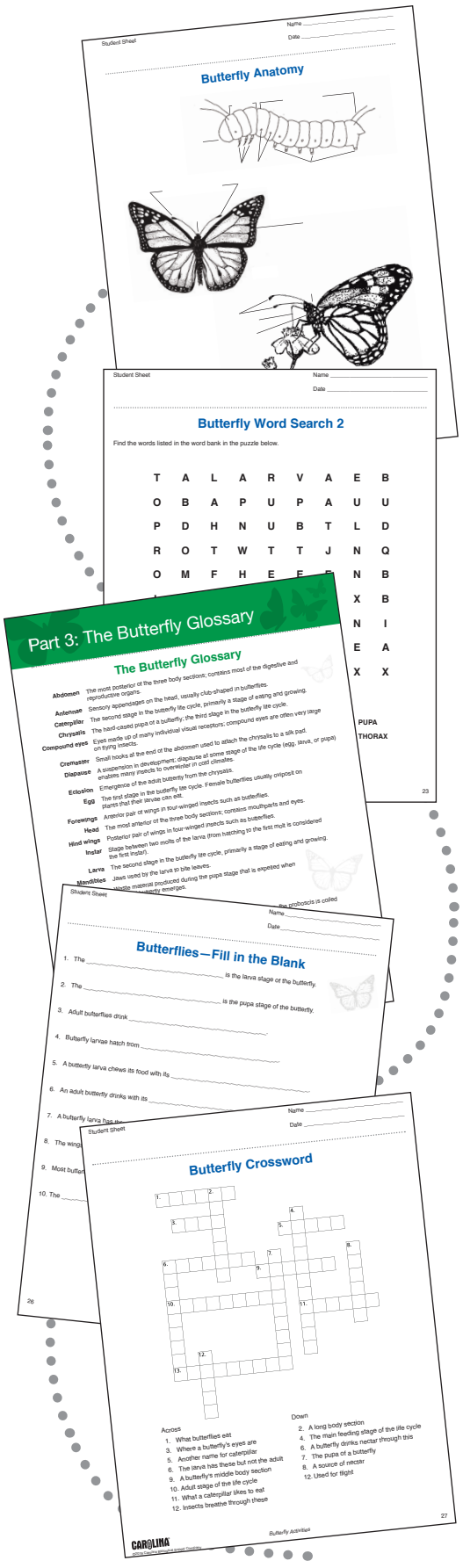
Review concepts by completing sentences and writing butterfly-related words that correspond with letters of the alphabet. Have your students complete these activities for word practice and review.

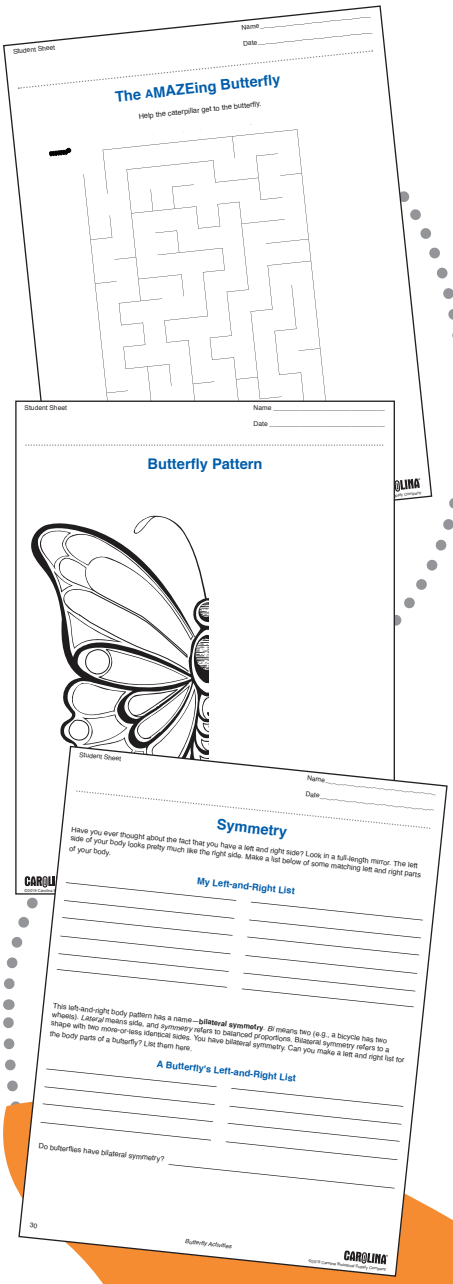
Butterfly Crossword Puzzle

Materials:

- Butterfly Crossword sheet
- The Butterfly Glossary sheet

Have your students complete this crossword puzzle for word practice and review.





Butterfly Maze

Materials:

- The Amazing Butterfly sheet
- Writing utensil

Your students will help the caterpillar find its way to the butterfly in this fun butterfly maze.

Butterfly Pattern

Materials:

- Butterfly Pattern sheet
- Scissors
- Colored pencils, markers, or crayons

Explore bilateral symmetry as it relates to butterflies with this fun art activity. Students fold the Butterfly Pattern in half lengthwise. Have students cut out the butterfly and open their folded sheet. Then, they draw the existing pattern of the butterfly on the blank side of the sheet and color their butterfly. For younger students, the emphasis should be on the art activity.

Butterfly Symmetry

Materials:

- Symmetry sheets
- Writing utensil
- Colored pencils, markers, or crayons

Older students can focus more on the meaning of symmetry and then fill in the Symmetry sheets.

★★★★★

"I teach a life skills classroom with a population of students with varying disabilities (autism, Downs Syndrome, intellectually disabled). They need a hands-on, multisensory, media rich curriculum to learn new information and retain the knowledge gained. There is no other resource that shows the body parts of a caterpillar as clearly as the videos on the V-scope. I have searched high and low on the internet for some way to show the spiracles, bristles and foot grasp for the Painted Lady caterpillar and can only find close-ups using this site. GREAT resource and worth every penny!"

-Middle School Science Teacher
Nashville, TN

Butterfly Crafts

Project 1—Making Larvae

Materials:

- Short pieces of pantyhose (about 10" long)
- Paper, tissues, or other lightweight materials
- Wiggle eyes or buttons
- Glue
- Hot glue gun (optional)

1. Give each student a short piece of pantyhose (about 10 inches when stretched out).
2. Tie a knot in one end. Have the students stuff the hose with paper, tissue, or other lightweight material.
3. Tie off the other end of the hose.
4. Glue wiggle eyes to one end of the hose. Now each student has his or her own larva.

Another way to make a larva is to cut egg carton bottoms into four sections. Give a section to each student (each section contains three bumps, suggesting a larva in motion). Let students paint or color their larva and then glue wiggle eyes to one end.

Project 2—Making Butterfly Magnets

Materials:

- Glue
- Food Coloring
- Coffee Filters
- Droppers
- Pipe Cleaners
- Magnets

1. Pour water into a small plastic container and add a few drops of food coloring. Do this with several different colors.
2. Flatten a coffee filter, and have students use droppers to place several different colors of the food coloring/water mixture on it. The colors will run together and blend.
3. Let the coffee filter dry.
4. Pinch the coffee filter together in the middle and wrap a pipe cleaner around its center to form a body for the butterfly. Leave enough of the pipe cleaner ends protruding to form the butterfly's antennae.
5. Glue a magnet to the underside. You can display the magnets on the file cabinet or a bulletin board in the school.

Project 3—Painting a Butterfly

Materials:

- Black T-Shirt paint
- Other colors of T-Shirt paint
- Fabric markers
- Shallow pans
- Poster board or shirts

1. Pour black T-shirt paint in a shallow pan.
2. Have each student put one foot in the paint and place it in the middle of the poster board or a shirt. This represents the butterfly's body.
3. Pour brightly colored paint in the other pans.
4. Have students place each hand in the paint and press one hand on each side of their footprint to represent the wings of the butterfly.
5. Use a fabric marker to draw the antennae, or have students dip their index fingers in the black paint and place on the butterfly to form antennae.

Additional activity: V-Scope

Enhance your butterfly studies with V-Scope Explorer: Butterfly Life Cycle (available for separate purchase at Carolina.com). This virtual lab simulates an actual working microscope, allowing students to zoom in and see all stages of the butterfly life cycle in close detail. The lab also gives students a virtual experience in using the microscope. V-Scope Explorer is designed to support whole-class instruction and can be used with interactive whiteboards and teacher presentation stations.

Part 2: Reproducible Student Pages

Introduction

Your students will need the following pages to complete the butterfly activities from Part 1. After printing your copies, it may be helpful to give each student a folder to keep their pages in to prevent loose pages from getting lost. At the beginning of each activity, remind students to write their name and the date at the top of the activity page. When students are finished with the activities, they can staple or bind their sheets together to create their very own butterfly booklet. Answer keys for these student activity sheets are found in Part 4: Teacher Answer Key.

Name _____

Date _____

Painted Lady Observation

How many days has it been since your first observation? _____

Draw a picture of what your larva or chrysalis or adult looks like today. Try to draw it life size. Beside the life-size drawing, you may draw a magnified view.

What size is your painted lady today? _____

What have you observed about your painted lady today?

What has changed about your painted lady since your last observation?

Name _____

Date _____

My Butterfly Story Book

Name _____

Date _____

Larva

Name _____

Date _____

Chrysalis

Name _____

Date _____

Adult

Name _____

Date _____

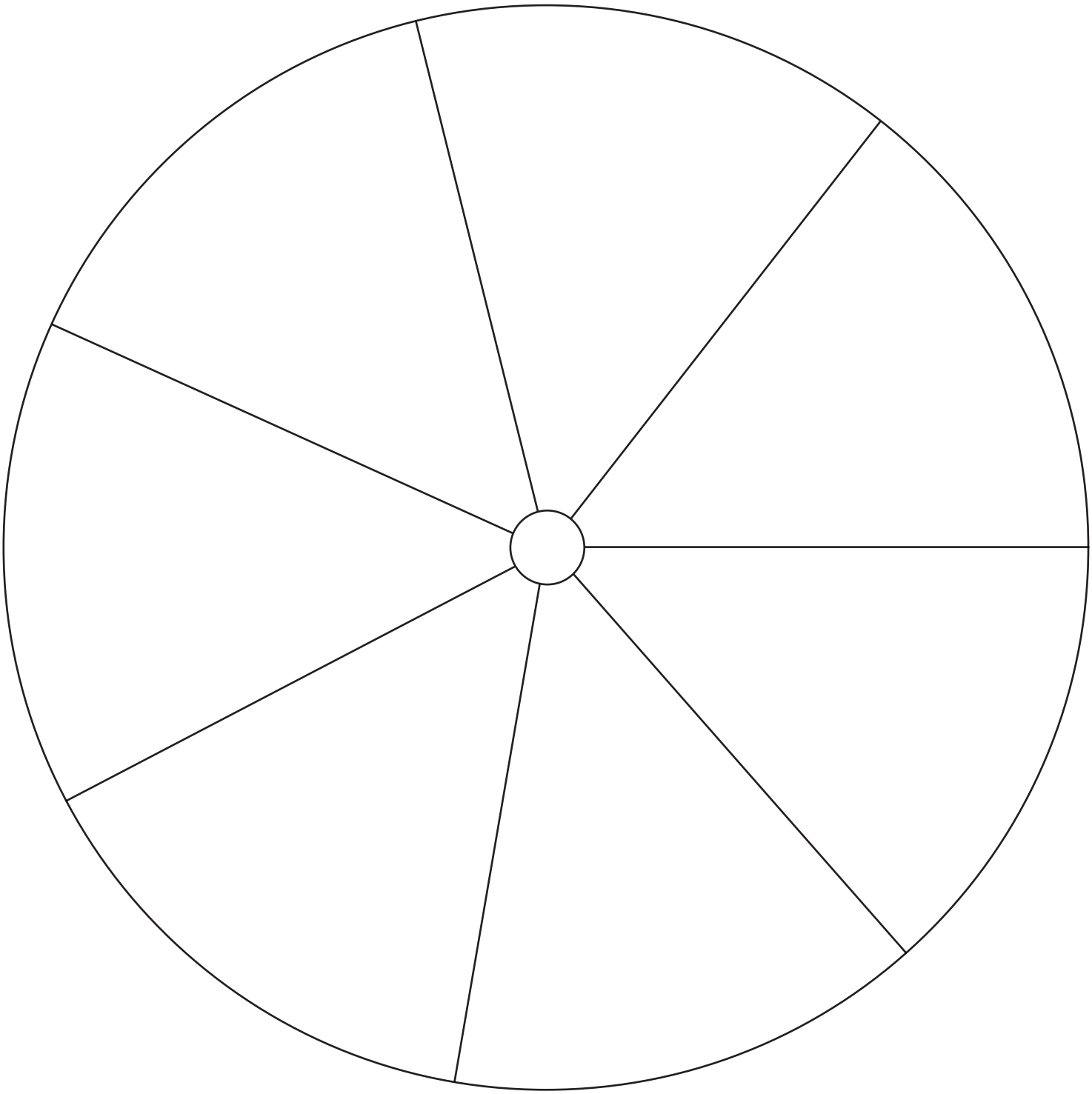
My Butterfly Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday

Name _____

Date _____

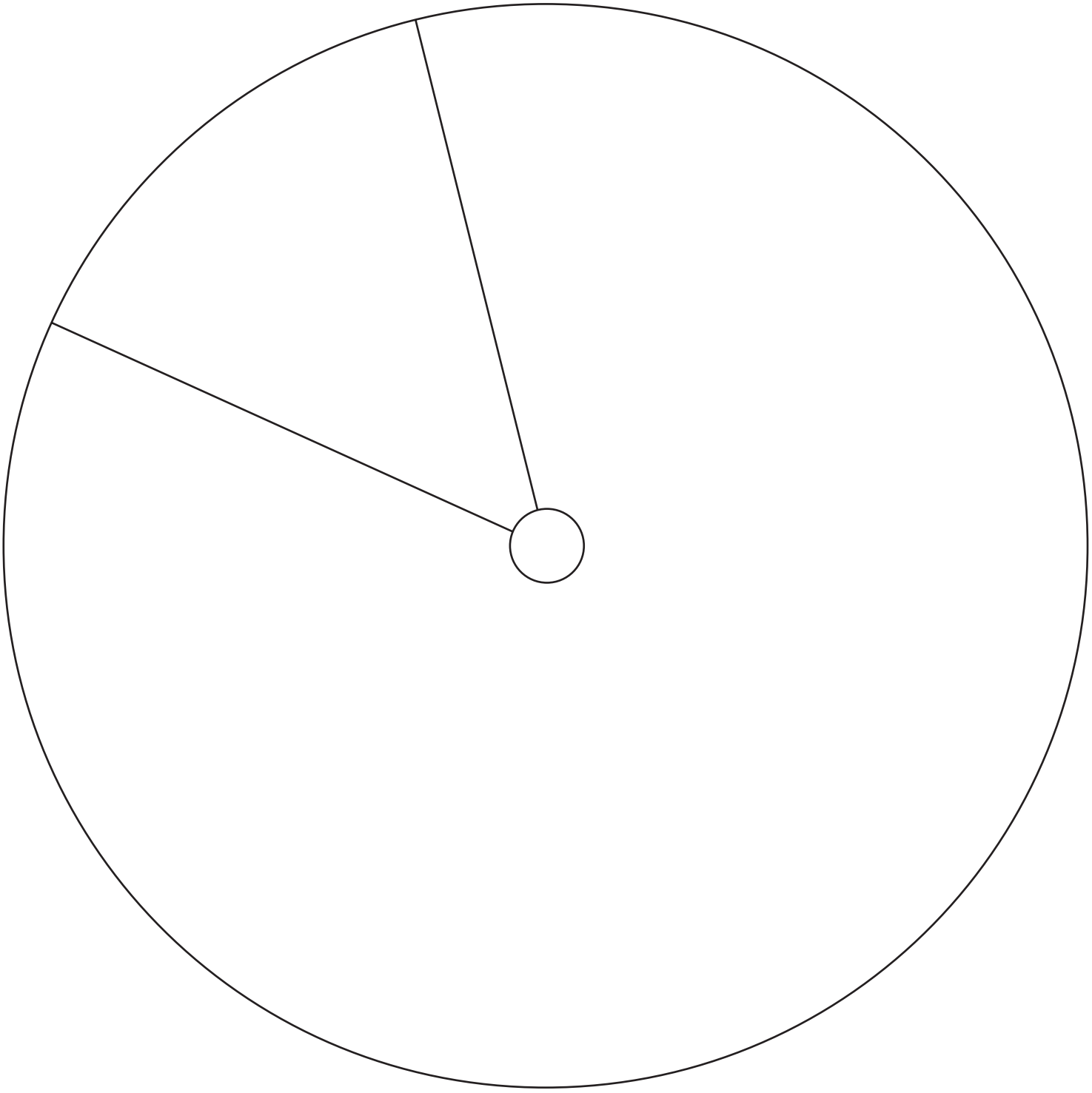
Life Cycle Wheel: Base



Name _____

Date _____

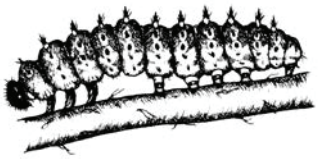
Life Cycle Wheel: Cover

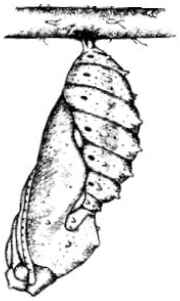


Name _____

Date _____

Butterfly Life Cycle Stages



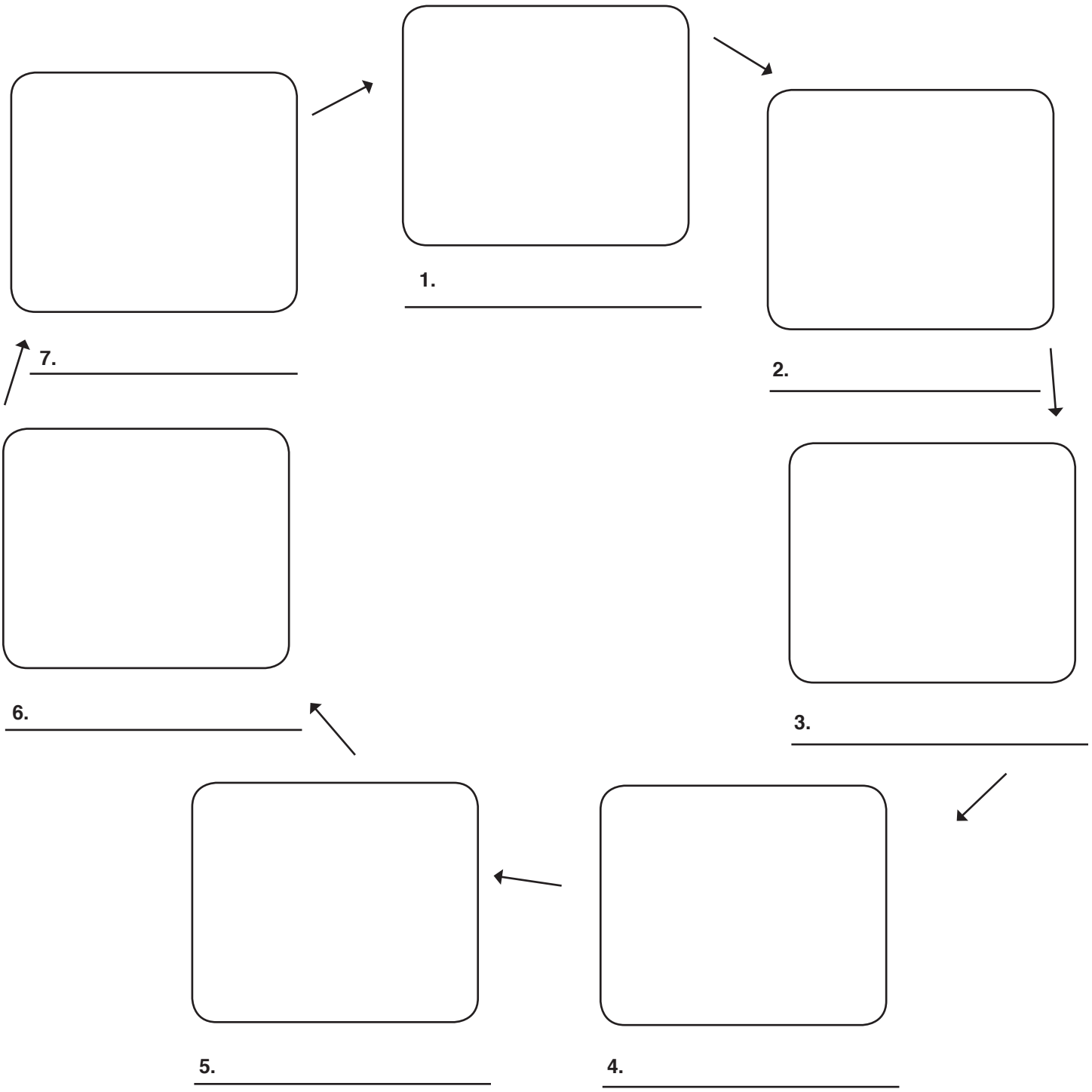


Name _____

Date _____

Butterfly Life Cycle Diagram

Attach the images in order based on the life cycle of the butterfly. On the blanks, label each stage with a word or phrase.



1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

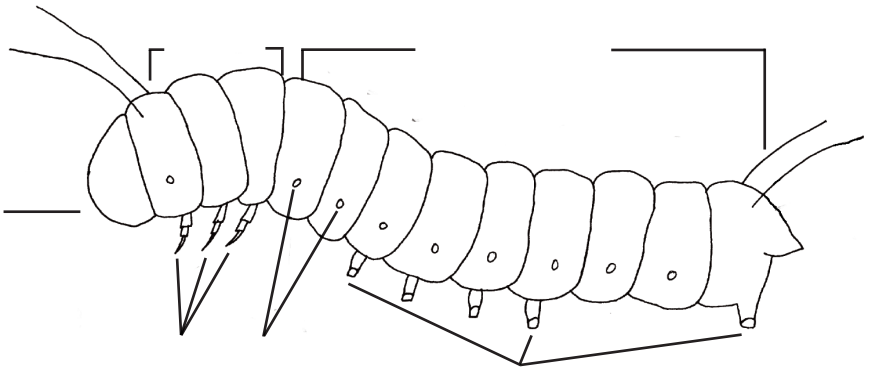
6. _____

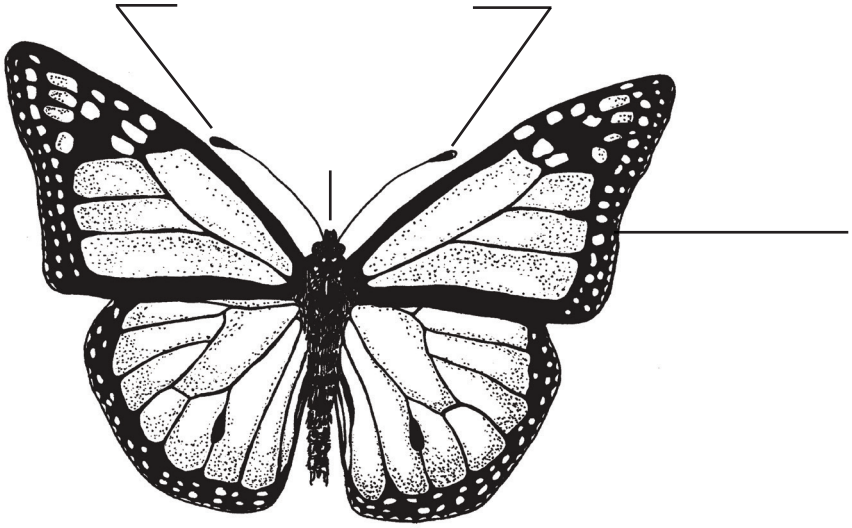
7. _____

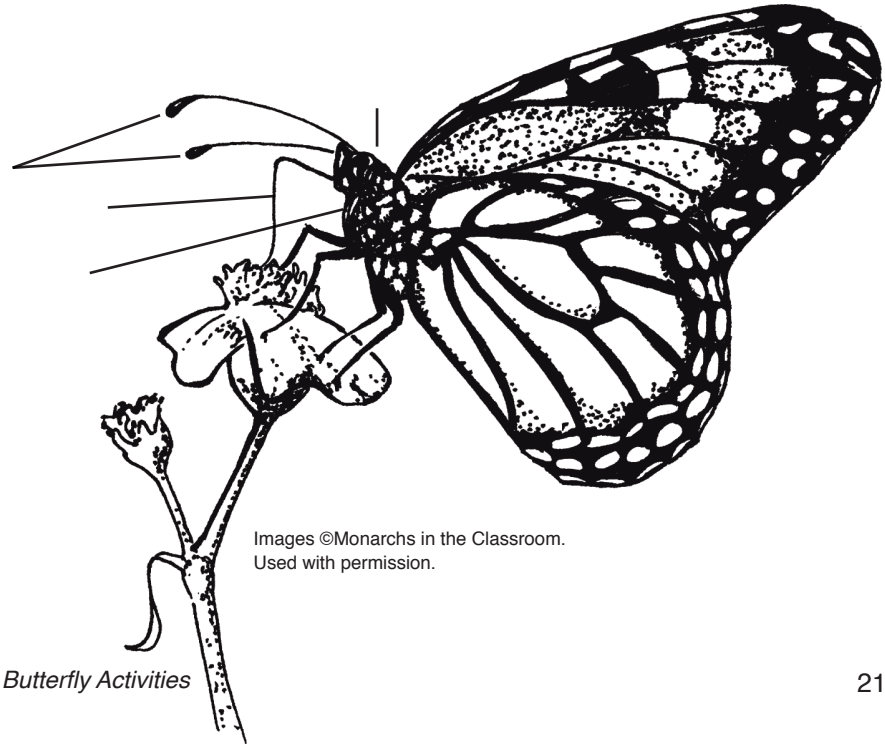
Name _____

Date _____

Butterfly Anatomy







Name _____

Date _____

Butterfly Word Search 1

Find the words listed in the word bank in the puzzle below.

P U P A W

E F B H I

G Y A E N

G G E A G

L E G D H

Word Bank

EGG	LEG
EYE	PUPA
HEAD	WING

Name _____

Date _____

Butterfly Word Search 2

Find the words listed in the word bank in the puzzle below.

T	A	L	A	R	V	A	E	B
O	B	A	P	U	P	A	U	U
P	D	H	N	U	B	T	L	D
R	O	T	W	T	T	J	N	Q
O	M	F	H	E	E	E	N	B
L	E	D	R	O	C	N	X	B
E	N	F	C	T	R	L	N	I
G	L	T	A	A	P	A	E	A
Y	W	R	B	S	E	U	X	X

Word Bank

ABDOMEN	BUTTERFLY	NECTAR	PUPA
ANTENNA	LARVAE	PROLEG	THORAX

Name _____

Date _____

Butterfly Word Search 3

Find the words listed in the word bank in the puzzle below.

L	G	I	H	T	D	D	B	E	A	Q	G	V	M	J
T	A	O	J	H	A	V	U	J	Y	N	R	G	C	R
C	M	R	Q	O	E	T	T	Z	I	E	K	H	A	S
I	A	E	V	R	H	K	T	W	K	E	R	L	N	K
U	I	T	R	A	T	C	E	N	G	Y	N	E	N	Q
S	O	O	E	X	E	F	R	G	S	Q	R	G	E	F
K	I	P	F	R	Q	N	F	A	O	P	X	A	T	D
A	Q	C	H	M	P	J	L	O	R	V	B	D	N	Q
M	P	M	S	W	T	I	Y	O	N	O	I	Q	A	L
I	T	U	O	O	S	E	L	C	A	R	I	P	S	I
D	I	B	P	G	B	E	E	L	U	T	R	U	E	C
F	F	F	K	Y	G	O	M	H	A	W	K	U	T	R
A	B	D	O	M	E	N	R	A	F	R	T	A	U	O
C	W	Y	N	E	B	M	T	P	I	N	O	H	Q	E
H	J	R	F	T	J	U	W	G	X	I	Z	V	K	J

Word Bank

ABDOMEN	LARVAE	ANTENNA	LEG
BUTTERFLY	NECTAR	CATERPILLAR	PROBOSCIS
CHRYSALIS	SPIRACLES	EGG	THORAX
EYE	WING	HEAD	

Name _____

Date _____

My Butterfly Words

Write in a butterfly-related word for each of the following letters. If you cannot think of a word, leave a blank.

A ..... _____

B ..... _____

C ..... _____

D ..... _____

E ..... _____

F ..... _____

H ..... _____

I ..... _____

L ..... _____

M ..... _____

N ..... _____

O ..... _____

P ..... _____

S ..... _____

T ..... _____

Name _____

Date _____

Butterflies—Fill in the Blank

1. The _____ is the larva stage of the butterfly.

2. The _____ is the pupa stage of the butterfly.

3. Adult butterflies drink _____.

4. Butterfly larvae hatch from _____.

5. A butterfly larva chews its food with its _____.

6. An adult butterfly drinks with its _____.

7. A butterfly larva has three pairs of jointed _____.

8. The wings of an adult butterfly attach to its _____.

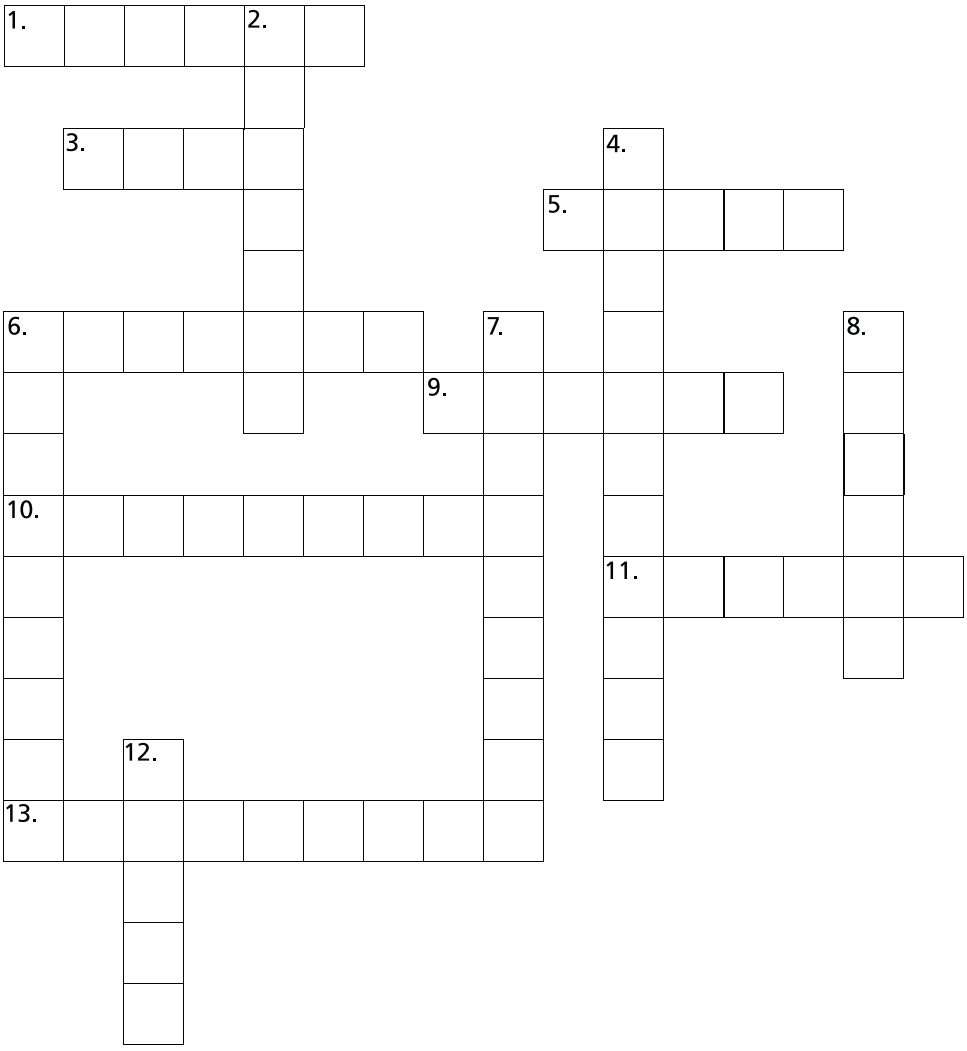
9. Most butterfly larvae eat _____.

10. The _____ emerges from the chrysalis.

Name _____

Date _____

Butterfly Crossword



Across

1. What butterflies eat
3. Where a butterfly's eyes are
5. Another name for caterpillar
6. The larva has these but not the adult
9. A butterfly's middle body section
10. Adult stage of the life cycle
11. What a caterpillar likes to eat
12. Insects breathe through these

Down

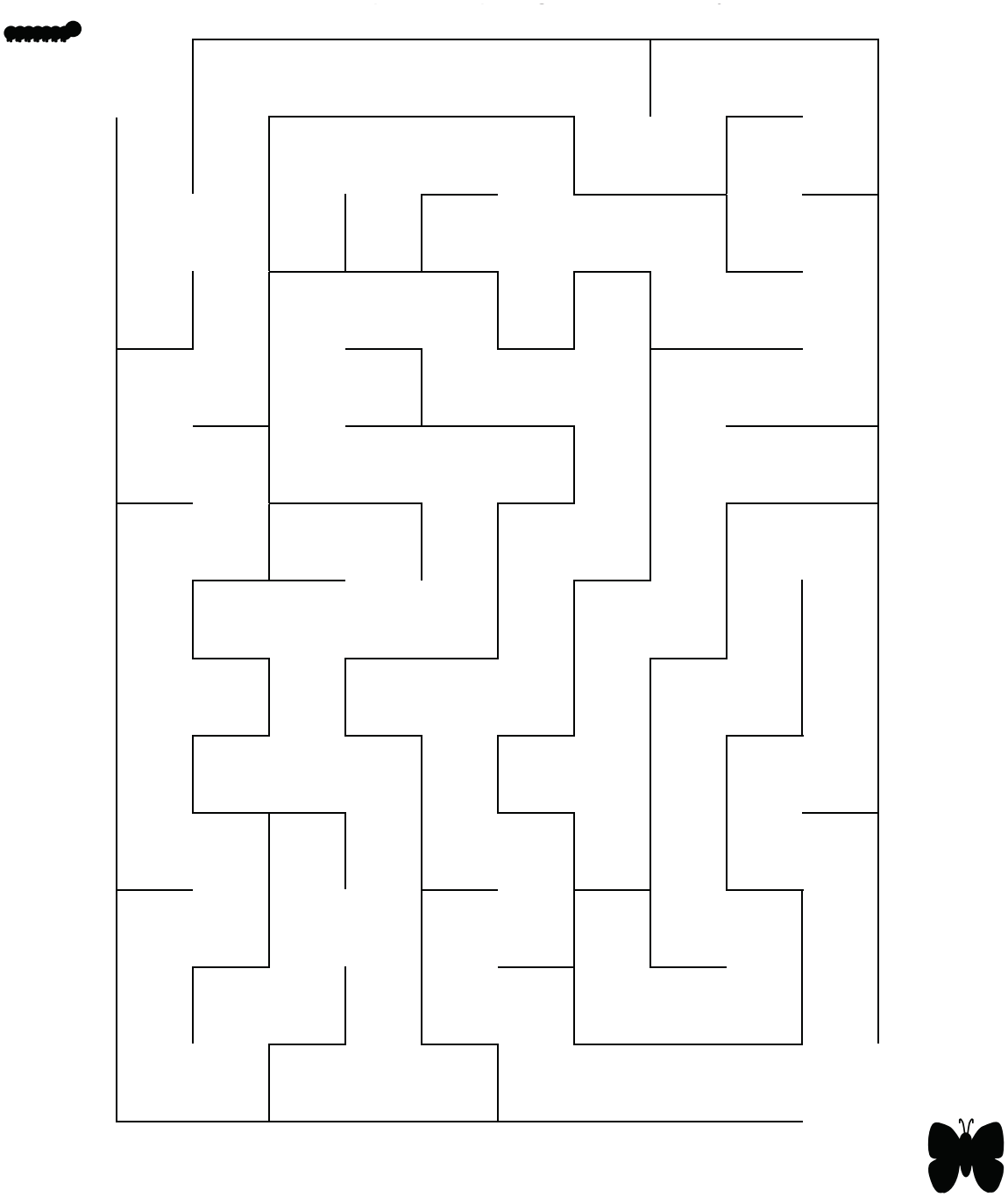
2. A long body section
4. The main feeding stage of the life cycle
6. A butterfly drinks nectar through this
7. The pupa of a butterfly
8. A source of nectar
12. Used for flight

Name _____

Date _____

The aMAZEing Butterfly

Help the caterpillar get to the butterfly.



Name _____

Date _____

Butterfly Pattern

Name _____

Date _____

Symmetry

Have you ever thought about the fact that you have a left and right side? Look in a full-length mirror. The left side of your body looks pretty much like the right side. Make a list below of some matching left and right parts of your body.

My Left-and-Right List

This left-and-right body pattern has a name—**bilateral symmetry**. *Bi* means two (e.g., a bicycle has two wheels). *Lateral* means side, and *symmetry* refers to balanced proportions. Bilateral symmetry refers to a shape with two more-or-less identical sides. You have bilateral symmetry. Can you make a left and right list for the body parts of a butterfly? List them here.

A Butterfly's Left-and-Right List

Do butterflies have bilateral symmetry? _____

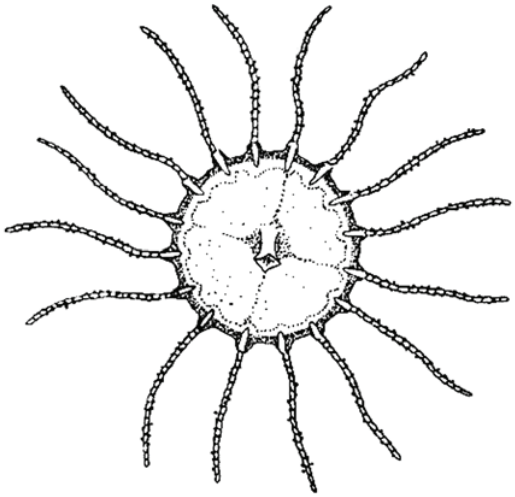
Name _____

Date _____

Think about some other animals. Make a list of several that have bilateral symmetry.

Animals with Bilateral Symmetry

Not all animals have bilateral symmetry; some have radial symmetry. Their body is arranged like a circle or wheel. Examples of animals with radial symmetry include jellyfish and sea urchins.



Hydrozoan medusa

Part 3: The Butterfly Glossary

The Butterfly Glossary

Abdomen The most posterior of the three body sections; contains most of the digestive and reproductive organs.

Antennae Sensory appendages on the head, usually club-shaped in butterflies.

Caterpillar The second stage in the butterfly life cycle, primarily a stage of eating and growing.

Chrysalis The hard-cased pupa of a butterfly; the third stage in the butterfly life cycle.

Compound eyes Eyes made up of many individual visual receptors; compound eyes are often very large on flying insects.

Cremaster Small hooks at the end of the abdomen used to attach the chrysalis to a silk pad.

Diapause A suspension in development; diapause at some stage of the life cycle (egg, larva, or pupa) enables many insects to overwinter in cold climates.

Eclosion Emergence of the adult butterfly from the chrysalis.

Egg The first stage in the butterfly life cycle. Female butterflies usually oviposit on plants that their larvae can eat.

Forewings Anterior pair of wings in four-winged insects such as butterflies.

Head The most anterior of the three body sections; contains mouthparts and eyes.

Hind wings Posterior pair of wings in four-winged insects such as butterflies.

Instar Stage between two molts of the larva (from hatching to the first molt is considered the first instar).

Larva The second stage in the butterfly life cycle, primarily a stage of eating and growing.

Mandibles Jaws used by the larva to bite leaves.

Meconium Waste material produced during the pupa stage that is expelled when the adult butterfly emerges.

Oviposit To lay eggs.

Palpi Sensory organs in front of the mouth.

Proboscis The tubular, feeding mouthpart of the adult; when not in use, the proboscis is coiled under the head.

Prolegs Clasping, unjointed abdominal legs of the larva.

Pupa Transformational stage between larva and adult; called chrysalis in the butterfly life cycle.

Simple eyes A light receptor that cannot form an image; butterfly larvae have simple eyes.

Spiracles Holes in the side of an insect's body through which air enters the respiratory system.

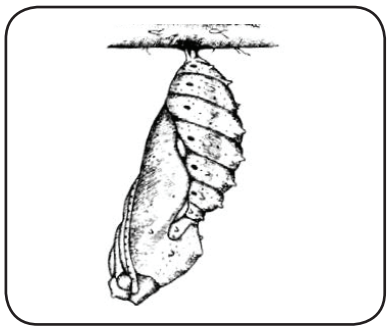
Thorax The middle section of an insect's body where the wings and jointed legs attach.

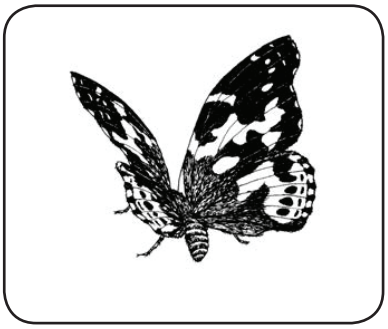
True legs The jointed legs of the butterfly larva, which are attached to the thorax.

Part 4: Teacher Answer Key

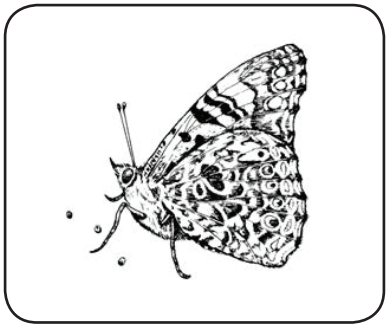
Butterfly Life Cycle Diagram

Attach the images in order based on the life cycle of the butterfly. On the blanks, label each stage with a word or phrase.

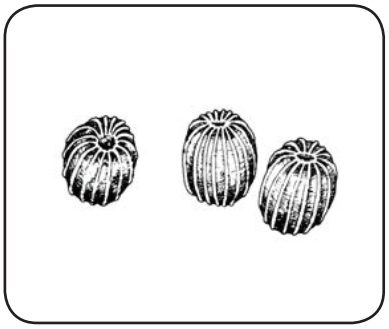




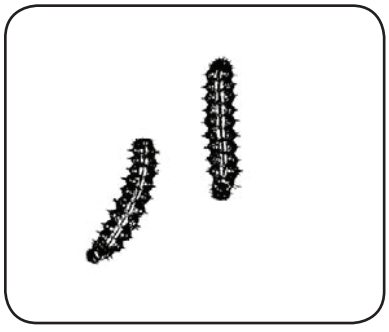
1. Adult



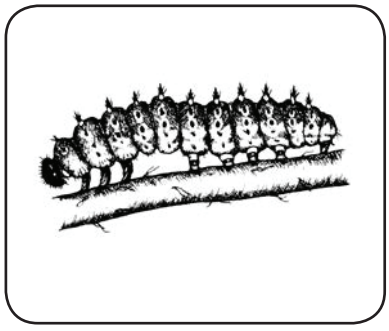
2. Adult laying eggs



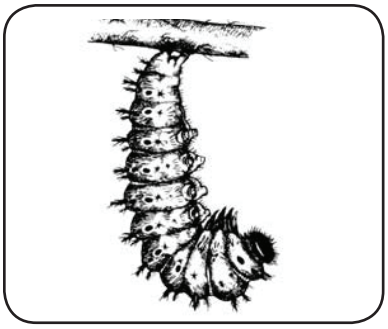
3. Eggs



4. Newly hatched larvae



5. Larva



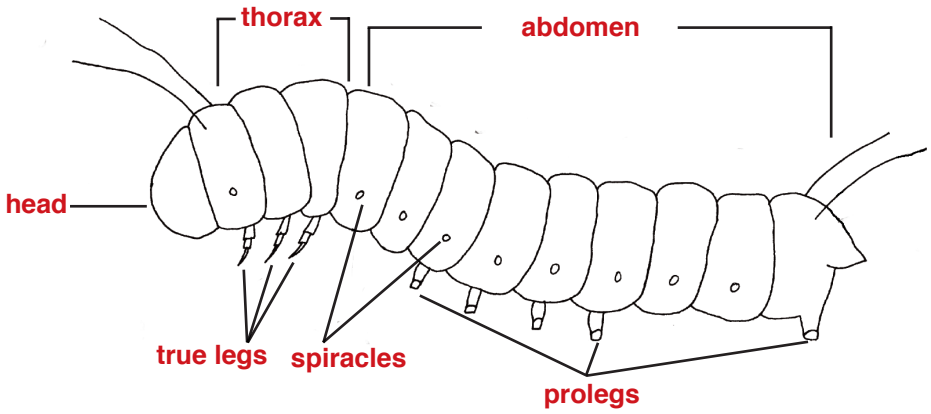
6. Larva (pupating)

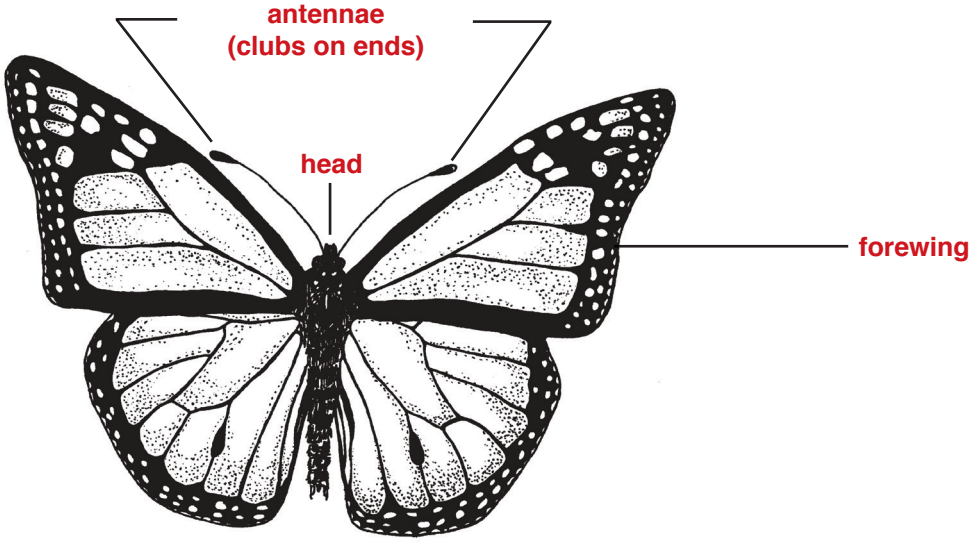
7. Pupa (chrysalis)

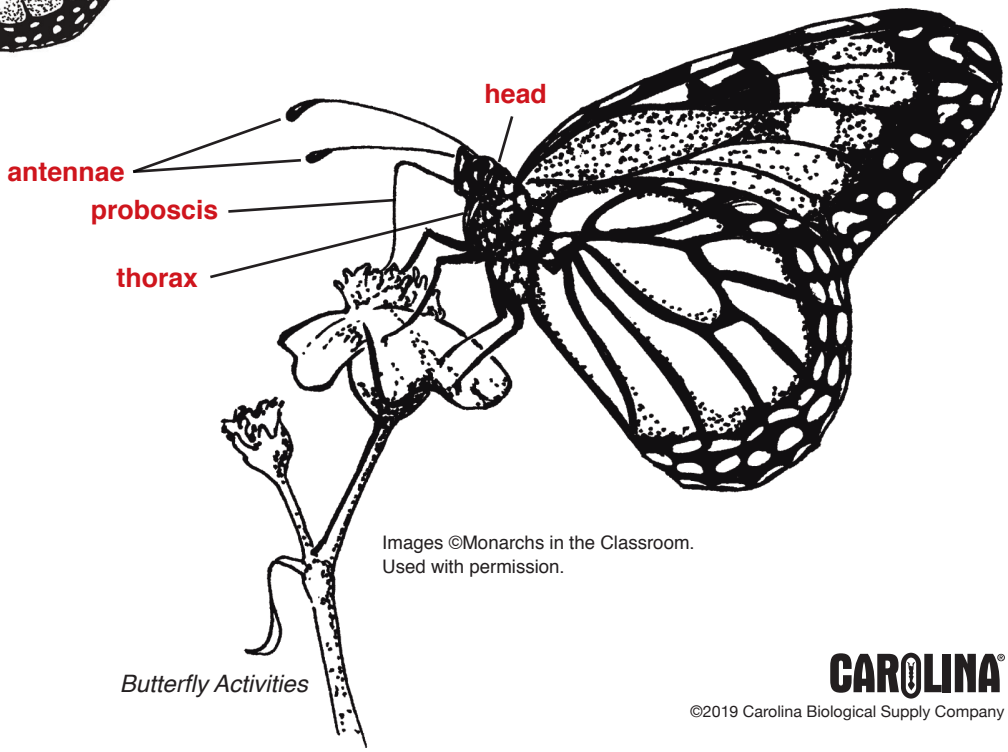
Name _____

Date _____

Butterfly Anatomy





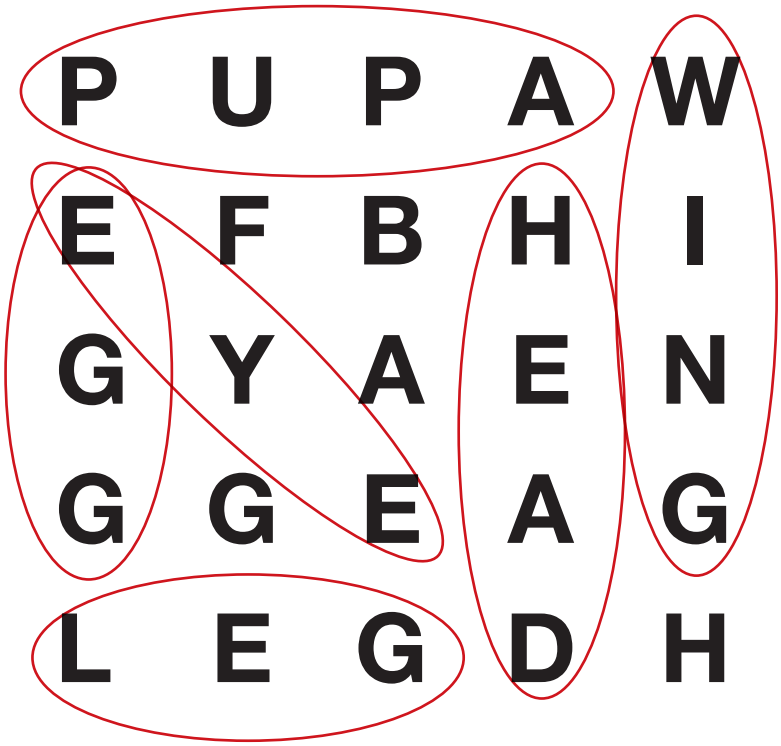


Name _____

Date _____

Butterfly Word Search 1

Find the words listed in the word bank in the puzzle below.



Word Bank

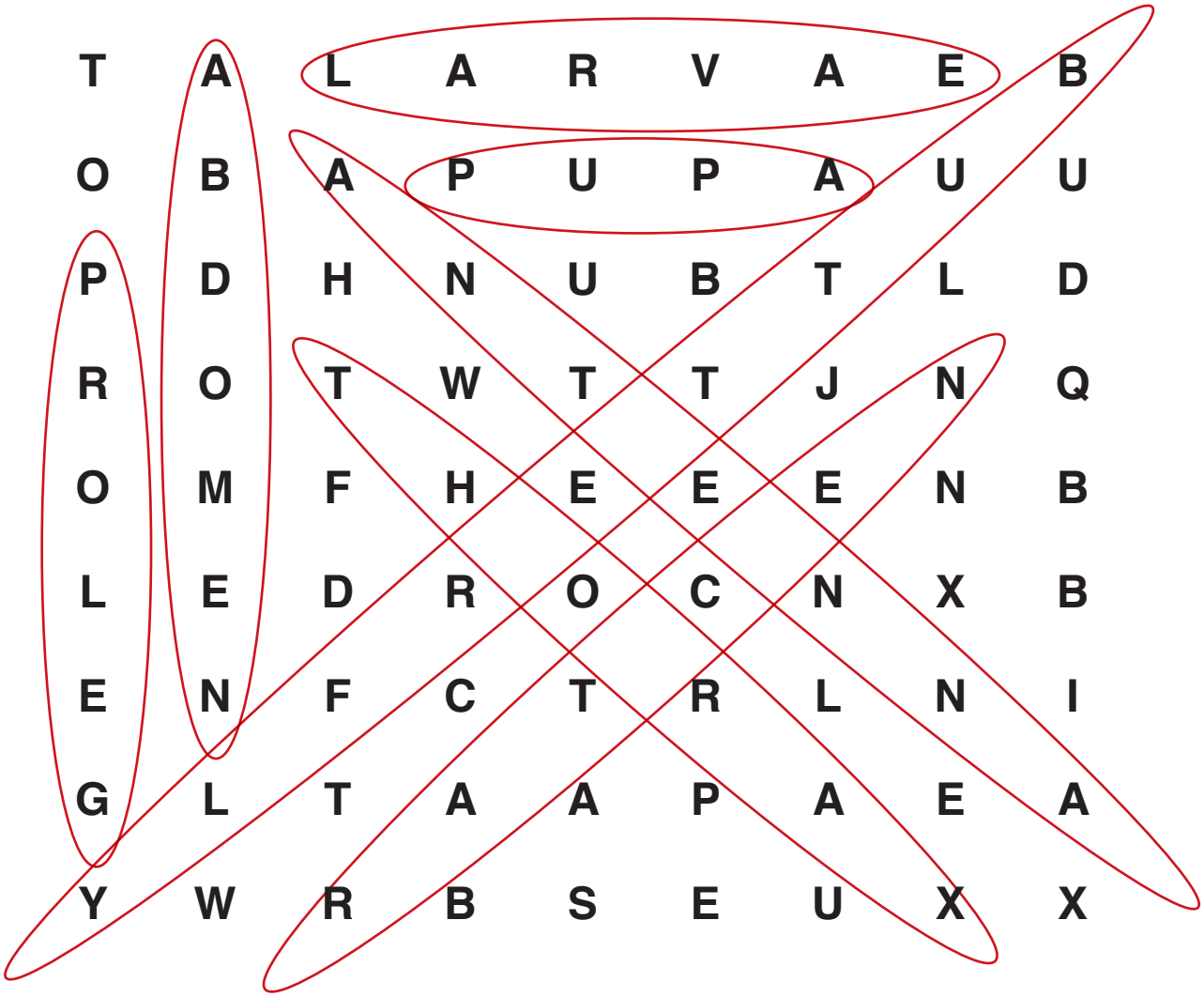
EGG	LEG
EYE	PUPA
HEAD	WING

Name _____

Date _____

Butterfly Word Search 2

Find the words listed in the word bank in the puzzle below.



Word Bank

ABDOMEN	BUTTERFLY	NECTAR	PUPA
ANTENNA	LARVAE	PROLEG	THORAX

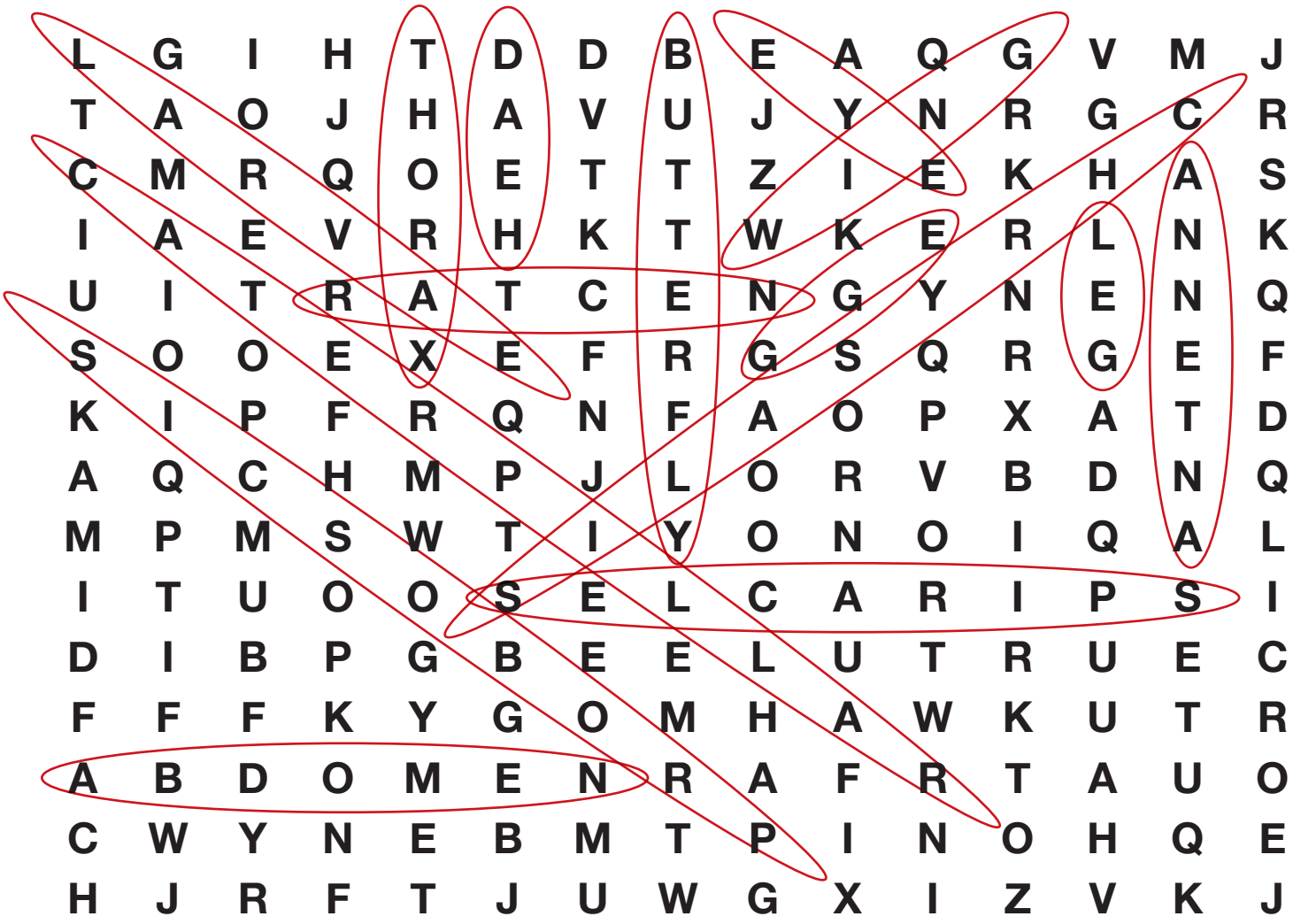
Teacher Answer Key

Name _____

Date _____

Butterfly Word Search 3

Find the words listed in the word bank in the puzzle below.



Word Bank

ABDOMEN	LARVAE	ANTENNA	LEG
BUTTERFLY	NECTAR	CATERPILLAR	PROBOSCIS
CHRYSALIS	SPIRACLES	EGG	THORAX
EYE	WING	HEAD	

Teacher Answer Key

Name _____

Date _____

My Butterfly Words

Write in a butterfly-related word for each of the following letters. If you cannot think of a word, leave a blank.

A ..... **Antenna, Abdomen**

B ..... **Butterfly**

C ..... **Chrysalis, Caterpillar, Compound Eye**

D ..... **Diapause**

E ..... **Egg, Eye, Emerge, Eclose**

F ..... **Forewing**

H ..... **Head, Hind Wing**

I ..... **Insect, Instar**

L ..... **Larva**

M ..... **Mandible, Metamorphosis, Monarch**

N ..... **Nectar**

O ..... **Oviposit, Ova, Ovum**

P ..... **Proleg, Proboscis, Pupa**

S ..... **Spiracle**

T ..... **Thorax**

Teacher Answer Key

Name _____

Date _____

Butterflies—Fill in the Blank

1. The **caterpillar** is the larva stage of the butterfly.

2. The **chrysalis** is the pupa stage of the butterfly.

3. Adult butterflies drink **nectar**.

4. Butterfly larvae hatch from **eggs**.

5. A butterfly larva chews its food with its **mandibles**.

6. An adult butterfly drinks with its **proboscis**.

7. A butterfly larva has three pairs of jointed **legs**.

8. The wings of an adult butterfly attach to its **thorax**.

9. Most butterfly larvae eat **leaves**.

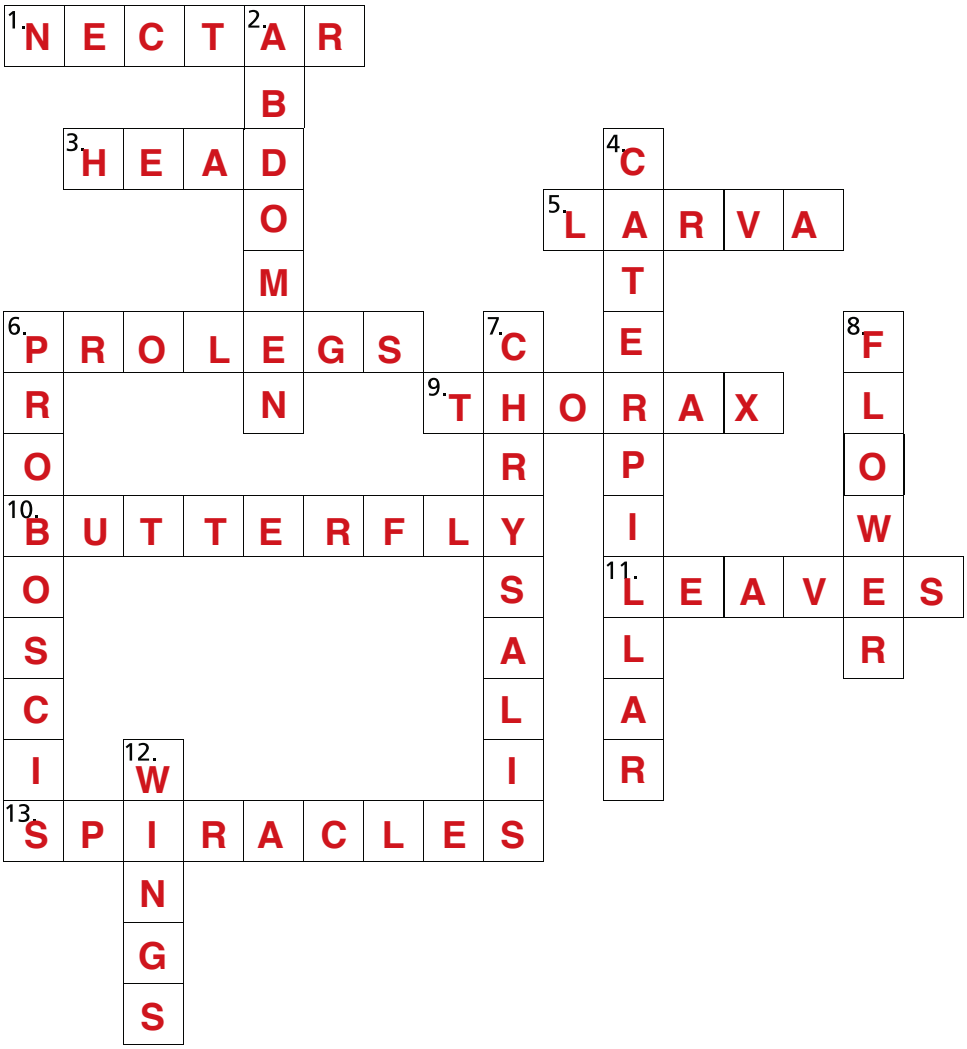
10. The **butterfly** emerges from the chrysalis. (or **adult**)

Teacher Answer Key

Name _____

Date _____

Butterfly Crossword



Across

1. What butterflies eat
3. Where a butterfly's eyes are
5. Another name for caterpillar
6. The larva has these but not the adult
9. A butterfly's middle body section
10. Adult stage of the life cycle
11. What a caterpillar likes to eat
12. Insects breathe through these

Down

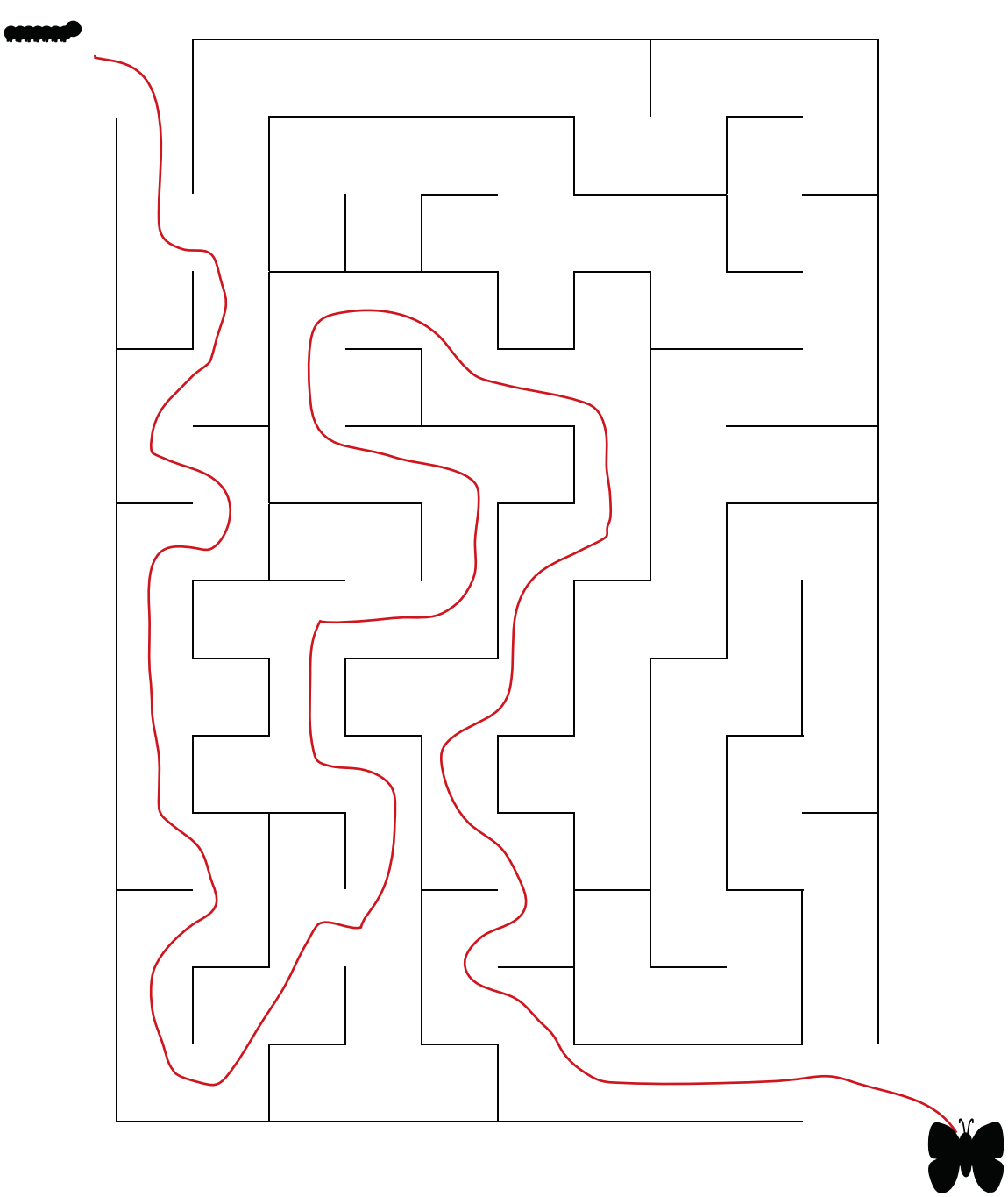
2. A long body section
4. The main feeding stage of the life cycle
6. A butterfly drinks nectar through this
7. The pupa of a butterfly
8. A source of nectar
12. Used for flight

Name _____

Date _____

The aMAZEing Butterfly

Help the caterpillar get to the butterfly.



Teacher Answer Key

Name _____

Date _____

Symmetry

Have you ever thought about the fact that you have a left and right side? Look in a full-length mirror. The left side of your body looks pretty much like the right side. Make a list below of some matching left and right parts of your body.

My Left-and-Right List

Left ear	Right ear
Left eye	Right eye
Left hand	Right hand
Left arm	Right arm
Left leg	Right leg
Left foot	Right foot

This left-and-right body pattern has a name—**bilateral symmetry**. *Bi* means two (e.g., a bicycle has two wheels). *Lateral* means side, and *symmetry* refers to balanced proportions. Bilateral symmetry refers to a shape with two more-or-less identical sides. You have bilateral symmetry. Can you make a left and right list for the body parts of a butterfly? List them here.

A Butterfly's Left-and-Right List

Left eye	Right eye
Left antenna	Right antenna
Left leg	Right leg
Left wing	Right wing

Do butterflies have bilateral symmetry? Yes

Name _____

Date _____

Think about some other animals. Make a list of several that have bilateral symmetry.

Animals with Bilateral Symmetry

Dogs

Cats

Aardvarks

Bats

Skunks

Squirrels

Mice

Butterfly Activities

Grades K—5

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