



BAG BUTTERFLY

Grade Level

K-2

Length of Lesson

30 minutes

Objective

By the end of this lesson, students will have a better understanding of the basic parts of a butterfly.

Materials Needed

- Snack size baggies
- Pipe cleaners
- Colored construction paper, confetti, or tissue paper

Standards

Common Core

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.K.1; SL.1.5

NGSS

K-LS1-1

Lesson Summary

This lesson is a fun, hands-on activity designed to introduce students to the basic parts of a butterfly! Use black and orange paper pieces and learn more about monarch butterflies!

Suggested Sequence of Events:

1. Set Up: Cut colored construction paper or tissue paper into small pieces.
2. Read through the IAITC Pollinator Ag Mag to learn more about pollinators and the process of pollination! Interactive online versions can be found on our website.
3. Complete the activity following the procedures:
 - Give each student a snack-sized baggie, small paper pieces, and a pipe cleaner.
 - Have them place the small pieces of construction paper, tissue paper, or confetti into the baggies. Leave about an inch at the top unfilled, then seal the baggies.
 - Pinch the middle of the baggie and wrap the pipe cleaner around the center, twisting the pipe cleaner to secure around the baggie.
 - Shape the loose ends of the pipe cleaner to look like antennae!
4. Whole class discussion and reflection of activity. Have students pair up and name the parts of their butterflies.

TEACHER RESOURCES

Extension Ideas:

- Turn this into a glyph activity and have students use different colors of paper pieces that represent different things. For example, the colors could represent favorite foods or number of siblings, or type of pet. Have them compare with each other to see what they have in common with and learn more about their classmates!
- Dig deeper into butterfly anatomy and have students add a second baggie (see image below).
- Pair this activity with IAITC's Butterfly Life Cycle lesson.
- Show a labeled diagram of a butterfly.
- The Monarch is the Illinois State Insect. Watch this video on YouTube to learn more about these beautiful butterflies. [Monarch Butterfly | Amazing Animals](https://youtu.be/1b87rwtXGzA). Available at <https://youtu.be/1b87rwtXGzA>
- Read "[Monarch Butterfly](#)" by Gail Gibbons.
- Show a time-lapse of a caterpillar transforming into a butterfly.
- Learn about different species of butterflies. What butterflies are native to Illinois?
- Compare butterflies to moths.
- Take a closer look at butterflies and other pollinators. What is pollination? Why is it important for plants? Why is it important for agriculture?
- Read "[Honeybee: The Busy Life of *Apis Mellifera*](#)" by Candace Fleming.
- Go to agintheclassroom.org to contact your County Literacy Coordinator for free classroom sets of our Ag Mags!

