

LESSON TITLE: Fly Away with Me – A Butterfly Collage

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Grade Level: Elementary

Background Information: This collage will be part of a science unit about living things and how they grow and change. Students will observe and record the stages of a real butterfly. This project will culminate the unit following the release of the butterfly into the environment.

Visual Arts Standards addressed with the lesson:

| NATIONAL CORE ARTS STANDARDS | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| CREATING | Anchor Standard #2 | Organize and develop artistic ideas and work. |
| | Anchor Standard #3 | Refine and complete artistic work. |
| PERFORMING PRESENTING PRODUCING | Anchor Standard #5 | Develop and refine artistic work for presentation. |
| | Anchor Standard #6 | Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work. |
| RESPONDING | Anchor Standard #9 | Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work. |
| CONNECTING | Anchor Standard #10 | Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art. |

Common Core Content Standards addressed with the lesson:

- ✓ ELA Speaking/Listening, Reading: *Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media format (visual)*
- ✓ ELA Writing: *Draw evidence from a variety of text (including visual, oral and print) to support analysis, reflection and research*
- ✓ ELA Language: *Acquire and use accurately a range of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases*

Learning Objectives/Goals/Essential Understandings:

- Introduce collage (an assemblage of cut paper) as a media for artwork
- Create artwork depicting the migration of a butterfly to reinforce vocabulary and scientific concepts

Vocabulary:

Collage, Migration, Adult, Butterfly, Balance, Symmetry, Habitat, Diet, Overlap, Composition

Materials:

Maps (new or used), cardboard or posterboard, pictures of flowers or plants (seed catalogs, greeting cards), letters for words (magazines, printed, or stamped), created papers (using a variety of watercolor or painting techniques or bleeding tissue paper), scissors, glue

Motivation:

Science study of a butterfly – including the observation of the live butterfly life cycle from (egg to) larva to chrysalis to adult.

Photographs of a variety of different butterflies with names

Youtube.com for live action or time-lapse movies

Students will create their ‘own butterfly’ and choose a descriptive name for it.

Procedure:

1. Decide on size of finished piece and cut the cardboard or posterboard.
2. Prepare the background, covering the entire board with either a map or watercolor wash.
3. Create adult butterfly, using previously prepared papers or scraps. Be sure to note the symmetry present in butterflies—in color, shape, line, and pattern.
4. Cut out plant or flower picture that butterfly will use as habitat/diet.
5. Choose postage stamps to add as a metaphor for travel.
6. If map was not chosen as the background, choose a map section for the collage.
7. Brainstorm and choose words for the collage:
 - a. name of butterfly (proper noun)
 - b. *migrate* or *migration* (verbs)
 - c. descriptive words or phrases (adjectives, adverbs)
 - d. other
8. Make a border of cut shapes, using a pattern.
 - *Optional: Cover entire collage with Mod Podge® to firmly secure all pieces

Assessment and/or Evaluation:

Compare student artwork to classmates’ in large or small group discussions using vocabulary appropriately.

Extensions:

Write about your collage!

- a. Informative or Expository paragraph about migration
- b. Narrative about their created butterfly with descriptive details including its habitat, diet, and adaptations
- c. Opinion paragraph comparing their butterfly with a classmate’s
- d. Poetry: Haiku is a good choice

Compare the migration of a butterfly with the migration of other living things--- animals or humans.

Explore collage art of artists such as Eric Carle, Romare Bearden, and Susan Roth.

Additional Resources/References:

Carolina.com (Carolina Biological Supply Company) and Insect Lore for live butterfly and ladybug larva.

Study the life and work of the naturalist and scientific illustrator Maria Sibylla Merian (1647–1717).