

Term 4

What does a baby butterfly look like?



Grab your coat and pooter - we're going out and about on a caterpillar hunt! Lift up logs to see who's home and cast your eyes over leaves and flowers. We'll set up a butterfly laboratory and watch every move, adding notes and labels and ask questions like a real scientist!

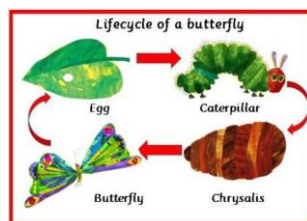
On your belly, legs at the ready, it's time to wriggle and crawl!



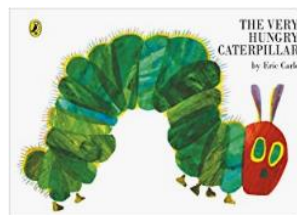
Cast your mind back to Term 1. We learned all about ourselves as babies and considered how we'd all changed and grown since then. Now it's time to extend this concept and broaden our knowledge of growth over time as we ask the question: What does a baby butterfly look like? This project will provide lots of opportunities for our young scientists to explore some wonderful resources and watch real live caterpillars turn in to painted lady butterflies right before their eyes! The children will start to think about what a caterpillar eats and how it starts its life as an egg, changing in to a caterpillar, then a cocoon and then in to a beautiful butterfly. We'll set up a Butterfly Laboratory which will enable the children to see the entire growth process from the comfort of the classroom, supporting their explanations of the life cycle process. It will also prompt them to ask scientific questions such as 'What happens inside of the chrysalis?' and 'Why can't the caterpillar fly?', as well as encourage them to describe how caterpillars have grown and changed over time using new descriptive project-related vocabulary.



Our project will end with a potential visit to Butterfly World at Studley Grange in Wiltshire to experience butterflies landing on our hands (if we're lucky!) and flying around us as we patiently wait quietly to spot them in the butterfly house. We will walk among some of the most beautiful butterflies in the world, flying freely against a backdrop of tropical plants and skimming over fish filled ponds. We may even be able to spot butterflies hatching from their cocoons - magical!



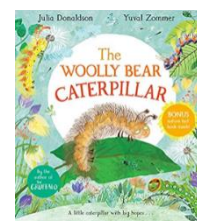
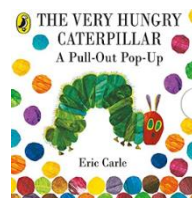
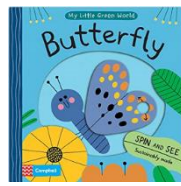
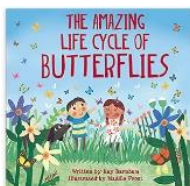
Within the project the children will have the opportunity to explore lots of exciting resources including story bags, finger puppets, toys, fiction and non-fiction books, magnifying glasses, dressing up and lots more!



As always, we will immerse the children in the project's theme, and the environment will inspire the children's imagination as they pretend to be a butterfly scientist ... or even a butterfly! We will investigate the life cycle of a butterfly and learn some new vocabulary and songs to help us remember!



In the book corner, there will be a range of fiction and non-fiction books and poems as well as our project story: The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle.



Alongside Maths, Reading and Project Work, there will be opportunity for extra-curricular activities such as Music Therapy, PE, Yoga, Gardening and Dance. Collaborative Friday will continue, providing opportunities for the children to develop their relationships with their "big and little friends" in Bats 2 and 3.

Nouns: caterpillar, butterfly, egg, cocoon, insect, chrysalis, life cycle, offspring

Verbs: to crawl, to grow, to eat, to fly, to change, to wriggle, to observe, to describe, to question

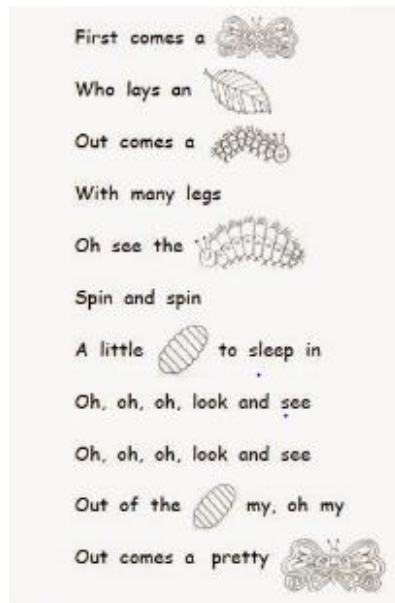
Adjectives: beautiful, colourful, delicate, winged, painted lady, winged, furry, symmetrical

Prepositions: in, on, under, behind, on top of, in front of, next to, inside, through



At home you could support your child with this new project by:

- Taking a walk around a garden, park or outside area. Can you find any butterflies or caterpillars? Try looking around some plants and flowers or under leaves. You could draw a picture or take a photo of any you find to bring in to school.
- Try drawing or painting a butterfly picture - can you make the wings the same on both sides? What colours will you use?
- Butterflies have symmetrical wings - this means their wings are the same on both sides. Try making your own symmetrical shapes by folding a piece of paper in half and cutting out some pieces. When you open it out, it will be a symmetrical shape. You could also decorate it to be symmetrical too.
- Look at pictures of the life cycle of a butterfly. Can you name the different stages? Try using the words: egg, caterpillar, cocoon and butterfly.
- Try making a model of a caterpillar or butterfly and bring it in to school! You could use playdough, paper, empty cardboard boxes or tubes, yoghurt pots or plastic bottles.
- Learn a butterfly poem or song!



In Series 5, episode 14 of *Cbeebies Something Special*: Mr Tumble will help teach the children some Makaton signs (flower, caterpillar, eat, butterfly) and is a lovely short video all about caterpillars and butterflies

<https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x6l75n3>



An animated story of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75NQK-Sm1YY>



A fun video called *Caterpillars: Butterflies in Disguise!*



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3kZD6rISLUw>

A great song to learn all about caterpillars changing in to butterflies! There are 4 stages to a butterfly ... and this is the Butterfly Dance!



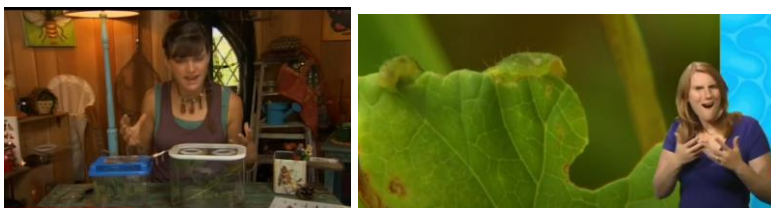
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1EQeYA5Qbic>

Another fun song to learn some scientific language!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7J5GZAhX2MI>



Join Jess on a Cbeebies minibeast adventure and go for a Caterpillar Hunt! This episode is signed.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0bCSxDqZNg0>

