Life as a Butterfly
Special Structures

1. **Antennae**
   - Adult butterflies sense most smells through their **antennae**, which have hole-like structures known as chemoreceptors (help to detect chemicals in the air).
   - For example, Monarchs can sense the honey odour of nectar through their antennae.
   - Butterflies can also sense special chemicals called pheromones using their antennae.
   - Pheromones help butterflies find each other to mate.

2. **Compound Eyes & Proboscises**
   - **Compound eyes** give butterflies excellent perception of colour and motion in a wide range.
   - They can see up, down, forward, backwards, and to the sides at the same time!
   - Butterflies use their **proboscis** to suck up nectar, minerals, and moisture.
   - Once at a flower, the proboscis unrolls and extends into the flower to access the nectar.

3. **Wing Scales**
   - Scales come in many shapes and sizes, and cover a butterfly’s wings and other body parts.
   - They give butterflies and moths their colouration, help insulate their bodies, and improve the aerodynamic efficiency of the wings.
   - The coloured scales on some butterflies and moths also help them to blend into their environment and hide from predators!