

## Biodiversity of Butterflies

### What you need

18 paper butterflies coloured (see pdf)

2 metres of string

3 beads

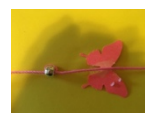
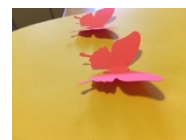
Small stick from outside or a straw

**Tools you'll need:** Scissors, glue stick



### What to do

1. Cut out the 18 paper butterflies you have already coloured so they are different.
2. Cut three pieces of string to a length that will fit 3 butterflies plus a bead and room to tie the string to the stick at the end. You can make the strings all the same length or make some longer or shorter than the others. Be sure to save enough string to hang your mobile.
3. Slip a bead through the end of one string like the photo or tie it tightly.
4. Take one paper butterfly and put glue down the centre and place it along the string.
5. Put glue down the centre of a second paper butterfly and place it over the first one.
6. Repeat until you have 3 butterflies on the one string.
7. Repeat steps 4-7 twice so you have 3 strings of butterflies.
8. Tie each string to the stick trying to balance the strings across the stick.
9. Tie a fourth string to the top of the stick in a loop (a triangle shape helps to balance the stick) and hang your mobile. If it isn't balanced, slide the strings until it hangs straight.



### Butterflies and biodiversity

Have you ever seen a butterfly? Have you seen different types of butterflies? Do you know the name of one type of butterfly? The Monarch is one a lot of us know about. There are about 17,500 different types of butterflies in the world! Biodiversity means differences in living things. Living butterflies come in different colours, patterns, shapes, sizes, and even in their DNA. The largest butterfly is called the Alexandra Birdwing and when its wings are spread out flat (we call this the wingspan) they measure as long as 30 cm! The smallest butterfly is called the Western Pygmy Blue and its wingspan is about 1.3 cm!

**We have taken precautions in the handling of these materials, and the likelihood of contracting COVID-19 from packaging is currently understood to be low. However, please encourage your child to follow normal hygiene recommendations (washing hands and avoiding touching the face) and consider setting aside the materials for 3 days (72 hours) before using.**