

NATURE CRAFT

BUTTERFLY FINGER PUPPET

Butterflies and flowers often go hand in hand!

Butterflies are attracted to flowers and drink their sweet nectar using a long, tube-like, mouth part called a proboscis. During the process, the flowers' pollen grains become attached to the butterflies and get transferred to the next flower they visit, resulting in pollination. Plants use flowers as a tool to produce seeds and reproduce and pollination is successful when pollen is transferred in and between flowers of the same plant species.



Have fun learning about pollination with this adorable nature craft. Start this activity with a hike outside to collect fresh or dried flowers and make a butterfly finger puppet. As you talk about pollination, try touching on different topics, including butterfly and flower morphology, other pollinators, and the difference between nectar and pollen.

MAKE YOUR OWN BUTTERFLY FINGER PUPPET

MATERIALS

Contact paper, colored paper, tape, scissors, and fresh or dried pressed flowers

DIRECTIONS

1. Collect fresh or dried flowers and press them under a heavy book.
2. Draw a butterfly on the colored paper. Cut out the butterfly and the insides of wings.
3. Cut out two pieces of contact paper that are a little larger than the butterfly.
4. Peel the backing off on one of the pieces and place the butterfly on top of the sticky side. If the contact paper doesn't lay flat, use tape to hold it in place on the table.
5. Fill the wings with pressed flowers and apply the second piece of contact paper on top. Use a card to remove air bubbles between the two pieces of contact paper.
6. Press firmly and cut off the excess edges around your butterfly.
7. Cut a small strip of paper and tape it onto the underside of the butterfly to turn it into a finger puppet.