



Fun Facts About Butterflies

It's spring and that means it's time to start looking for butterflies in your garden!

But, how much do you know about these colorful and important insects?

Step 1: Read the butterfly facts on pages 1 and 2.

Step 2: Test your knowledge on page 3!



1 There are about 17,500 species of butterflies in the world.

2 A group of butterflies is called a kaleidoscope or a flutter.

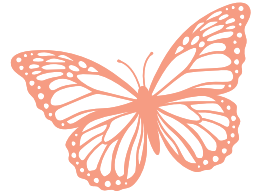
3 At $\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, the Western Pygmy Blue is smallest known butterfly in the world. That's the same size as a bumblebee!

4 Butterflies taste with their feet. When they land on a flower, they "taste" it by standing on it. It's like having special shoes that can tell you how your food tastes.

5 When they're hungry, they drink nectar from flowers using a long straw-like tube called a proboscis – just like when you drink from a straw!

6 While most butterflies fly quite slowly, the Skipper butterfly can fly faster than a horse can run!





7 Some butterflies, like the Monarch butterfly, travel thousands of miles during migration. It's like a long vacation for them, flying to warmer places when it gets cold.

8 Butterflies love puddles! In some hot climates they gather around wet spots in groups called "puddle clubs" to drink water and soak up important nutrients.

9 Butterflies can see a wide range of colors, including ultraviolet light. It's like having magical glasses that let them see hidden patterns on flowers.

10 Some butterflies, like the Giant Owl, have patterns on their wings that make them look like eyes or other creatures. It's their way of playing hide-and-seek with predators!

11 Butterfly wings are clear—the colors and patterns we see are made by the reflection of tiny scales covering them

12 Antarctica is the only continent where no butterflies or moths are found.



Monarch



Giant Owl



Butterflies in a "Puddle Club"





Test your Knowledge

FILL IN THE BLANKS

- 1 A group of butterflies is called a _____.
- 2 Butterflies taste with their _____.
- 3 Butterflies meet up in _____ clubs to soak up moisture and nutrients.
- 4 A butterfly's tongue is called a _____.
- 5 _____ is the only place on earth you can't find butterflies.

NAME THE BUTTERFLY!

- 1 What is the name of the butterfly that looks like it has eyes on its wings?

- 2 Which butterfly can fly faster than a horse can run?

- 3 Is the largest butterfly in the world the Western Pygmy Blue or the Queen Alexandra?

- 4 What kind of butterfly flies thousands of miles each year to find warmer locations?

