



Butterfly Observation Form



Pick a time and outdoor place, watch for butterflies or caterpillars (or signs) for 10 minutes, and complete both sides of this form. Bring your completed form to the Nature Exchange during the **Flying Colors Butterfly Festival** on July 14th & 15th to receive a Nature Exchange Goody Bag filled with anything from fossils & unusual stones to shells & preserved insects!

Where to Look?

It's the perfect time to look for butterflies at all stages of their life! Butterflies can be everywhere! Look for adults on nectar sources if they aren't flying high in the sky - *flowers are a butterfly's best friend*. Larva can be found on their host plant - butterflies pick specific plants to lay their eggs on so that their larva (*caterpillars*) will have the perfect food to eat!

What is It?

Much of the fun with observing butterflies and caterpillars is figuring out what it is! Grab a field guide and focus on the 6 butterflies below - we picked out the 6 most common butterflies for you!



Monarch - *Danaus plexippus*
Host Plant: Milkweeds



Gulf Fritillary - *Agraulis vanillae*
Host Plant: Passion Vine



Painted Lady - *Vanessa cardui*
Host Plant: Thistles and asters



Black Swallowtail - *Papilio polyxenis*
Host Plants: Parsley and Dill



Cloudless Sulphur - *Phoebis sennae*
Host Plants: Plants in the Legume family like Cassia and Senna



Tiger Swallowtail - *Papilio glaucus*
Host Plant: Tulip Poplar tree

photos by Henning von Schmeling

Describe where you are conducting your butterfly and caterpillar observations:

- Single Tree or Potted Plant
- Balcony Garden
- Community Garden
- Rooftop Garden
- Grassy Yard
- Park
- Forested Yard
- Other: _____

If you are watching the birds in a park or greenspace - what is the name of the area: _____

****RECORD DATA ON REVERSE SIDE****

Make a note of how many of each butterfly species you found during your observations. If you saw 3 eggs, put the number 3 in the egg box. If you saw 1 adult, put the number 1 in the adult box.

Date: _____ Time: _____ Weather: _____

| | EGG | LARVA | CHRYSLIS | ADULT | What did it Look Like? |
|-------------------|-----|-------|----------|-------|------------------------|
| Monarch | | | | | |
| Gulf Fritillary | | | | | |
| Painted Lady | | | | | |
| Black Swallowtail | | | | | |
| Tiger Swallowtail | | | | | |
| Cloudless Sulphur | | | | | |

Most Interesting Thing About What I Saw - draw or write about your findings!

Date: _____ Time: _____ Weather: _____

| | EGG | LARVA | CHRYSLIS | ADULT | What did it Look Like? |
|-------------------|-----|-------|----------|-------|------------------------|
| Monarch | | | | | |
| Gulf Fritillary | | | | | |
| Painted Lady | | | | | |
| Black Swallowtail | | | | | |
| Tiger Swallowtail | | | | | |
| Cloudless Sulphur | | | | | |

Most Interesting Thing About What I Saw - draw or write about your findings!

Name: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

CNC Member: Yes No

Age: Adult

Child (list age): _____