

# The Monarch Butterfly

PM Level 1

Magenta

**Text Type** Description



## Preparing for Guided Reading

### Prior Knowledge

- Students should be familiar with butterflies and caterpillars.

### Orientation to the Text

- In this text without words, the life cycle of a Monarch Butterfly is showcased in photographs from egg through to emerging from the chrysalis.

### Key Language Structures

- The story will require some technical language as students describe what is happening.
- Students will use present continuous tense verbs to describe the action. *The caterpillar is eating a leaf.*

## Building the Balanced Reader

### Vocabulary

Key High-frequency Word

*The*

Content Word

*butterfly*

### Decoding

- Talk about how many letters and sounds are in the word *the*.
- Ask students to identify the beginning sound in *butterfly*.

### Fluency and Phrasing

- Encourage students to stop and think after each idea they express.

### Focusing on the Book – Guided Reading

- Look carefully at the cover illustration. Ask students what they already know about butterflies.
- Look at pp. 2–3 together. Talk about the function of the arrow in the book. Ask, *What can we see on p. 3?*
- Look at p. 4. Ask, *What is happening to the egg?* Look at p. 5 and talk about what came out of the egg.

- Continue to p. 9. Invite students to repeat some of the technical language, such as *caterpillar* and *chrysalis*, after you and to explain in their own words what they mean.
- Look at pp. 10–11. Ask, *What can you see? What do you think will happen next? Why?*
- Continue to p. 16. Ask, *How did the butterfly change from one page to the next?*
- Return to the beginning of the book and describe each stage in the Monarch Butterfly's life cycle together.

### Comprehension

- What hatches from the Monarch Butterfly's egg? (*Literal*)
- What happens to the outside of the chrysalis as the butterfly gets close to emerging? (*Literal*)
- Why might the caterpillar need a chrysalis as it changes to a butterfly? (*Inferential*)

### Follow-up Activities

- List the stages in the life cycle of a Monarch Butterfly together. Read the process while students act out each stage from being an egg through to spinning the chrysalis and becoming a butterfly.
- List with students other animals that lay eggs. Talk about what might be similar and what might be different about their life cycles.
- Talk about how the pattern on one wing of a butterfly is same as that on the other. Model sticking small pieces of paper or sticker within a butterfly template so that both wings are the same. Students can then make their own butterfly collage and describe it to a friend.

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## Learning Intentions

- We are learning that there are different stages in the life cycle of a butterfly.
- We are learning to describe pictures.
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Success Criteria

- I can name some of the stages in a butterfly's life cycle.
- I can use full sentences to talk about a picture.
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Guided Reading Notes

Student's name	Reading focus	Observations/notes	For follow-up