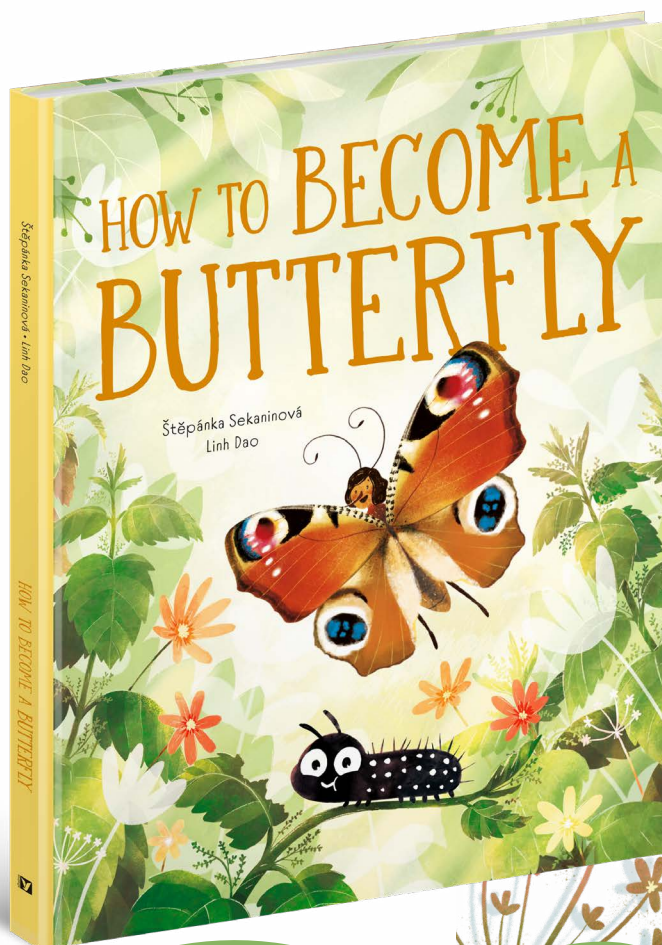


HOW TO BECOME A BUTTERFLY

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GUIDE FOR TEACHERS

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Created by Dolly Ko, M.A.

Curriculum: Plant and Animal Interactions; Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems; Growth, Development, and Reproduction of Organisms; Life Cycles; Reading Informational Texts

● AGES 6-9

● GRADES K-4

● ISBN: 9788000078359

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● GR: P

● AR: 4.10

BEFORE READING

Essential Questions

1. How do butterflies spend their days and the course of their lives?
2. What happens during the life cycle of a butterfly?
3. How are butterflies important in nature?
4. What can butterflies teach us about change?

Vocabulary

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------|
| · caterpillar | · chrysalis | · ecosystem |
| · butterfly | · pupa | · pollinator |
| · metamorphosis | · larva | · nectar |
| · life cycle | · habitat | · camouflage |



Discussion Questions

Look at the cover and read the title of the book. Do you think this book will be a completely made-up fiction story, a non-fiction science book, or a mix of both? Why?

Read the blurb at the back of the book. What information do you already know about butterflies?

What are some words that come to mind when thinking about butterflies?

What are some challenges that a tiny caterpillar might face in a giant garden?

Do a picture walk through the text. What are some things you notice?

Do you see any other creatures in this book as you browse through the illustrations? How do you think they might be related to each other?

What is the scientific word used to describe a big change that a caterpillar goes through to become a butterfly?

What questions do you have about butterflies or about the text?

DURING READING

Discussion Questions

What do baby caterpillars eat? Do you think this is something you would enjoy eating?

Why do you think eating is so important for a caterpillar at the beginning stage of life?

Why does the caterpillar need to leave her brothers and sisters behind?

Have you ever seen any of these butterflies outside? Which of these do you already know about?

Are there any butterflies that were not mentioned that you know?

How do caterpillars defend themselves against their enemies?

Which one of these defenses would you like to use?

What are some changes that happen to a caterpillar?

What does the word metamorphosis mean?

Now that Amanda is tucked away in her chrysalis, what do you think she will look like when she finally comes out?

Do you think the caterpillar will instantly be able to fly?

What does a butterfly do at night?

What does a butterfly do in the winter?

What does the butterfly do when spring arrives?

How do butterflies court each other?

What should Amanda name her new baby caterpillars?

What do you think will happen next in the lives of the baby caterpillars?



AFTER READING

Discussion Questions

Is being a butterfly better than being a caterpillar? Why or why not?

What does this story teach us about trying to reach our own goals or handling big changes in our lives?

Describe the main stages of Amanda's life cycle from start to finish.

What important jobs do butterflies do for our plants and gardens?

Amanda changes from a slow crawler to a fast flyer. Think about when you were a baby or a toddler. What is something you used to find really hard to do that is super easy for you now?



AFTER READING

Butterfly Vocabulary

Use pictures or words to describe the definition of the vocabulary words in the spaces below. Be sure to use the text to help you define each word.

caterpillar	chrysalis	ecosystem
butterfly	pupa	pollinator
metamorphosis	larva	nectar
life cycle	habitat	camouflage



AFTER READING

Life Cycle Wheel

Help students visualize the physical changes that Amanda goes through in an art project using a divided paper plate or a folded piece of paper and different types of uncooked pasta to represent each stage. Have them include a fact about each stage from the story.

Egg: A single grain of uncooked white rice glued to a green paper leaf.

Larva: A rotini (spiral) or penne pasta noodle to represent Amanda as the hungry caterpillar.

Pupa: A shell (conchiglie) noodle glued to a small brown paper branch.

Adult: A farfalle (bow-tie) noodle painted with bright colors for the final butterfly.

Butterfly Symmetry

Have students fold a piece of white paper in half and cut out a butterfly wing silhouette. Drop small dots of different colored paint on one side of the paper. Fold the paper back in half, press firmly, then open it up to reveal a perfectly symmetrical butterfly pattern.

Persuasive Writing

You are Amanda the Caterpillar. You are minding your own business, munching on a delicious green leaf, when you look up and see a giant, hungry bird circling above you! You need to save yourself. Write a letter to Mr. Bird persuading him to fly away and find a different snack. Give him three reasons why eating you is a terrible idea by using information you've learned from the text about how caterpillars protect themselves against predators.



AFTER READING

Dramatic Play

Integrate movement and science by guiding students through Amanda's transitions using physical movement. Play nature sounds or soft music in the background!

1. **Egg:** Curl up into the smallest, tightest ball possible on the floor.
2. **Caterpillar:** Wiggle around the carpet, pretending to munch on giant leaves and looking out for "predator birds."
3. **Chrysalis:** Freeze in a comfortable position, close eyes, and take deep, slow breaths. Challenge them to stay completely still and silent for 60 seconds while they "grow their wings."
4. **Butterfly:** Slowly open eyes, gently stretch out arms, and "fly" back to their desks.

Metamorphosis Obstacle Course

Transform the classroom into a physical journey that mirrors the steps Amanda takes to become a butterfly. The students must complete the stations in order to transform from a caterpillar to a butterfly.

Egg station: Students curl up into a ball inside a hula hoop on the floor. They must stay here for 5 seconds.

Caterpillar Crawl: Students must army crawl or wriggle on their bellies through a play tunnel or under a row of chairs.

Chrysalis Wrap: Students will bundle themselves tightly with a blanket and stay silent and still for 10 seconds.

Butterfly Breakout: Students will then break out of their blanket "chrysalis" and sour back to the starting line.



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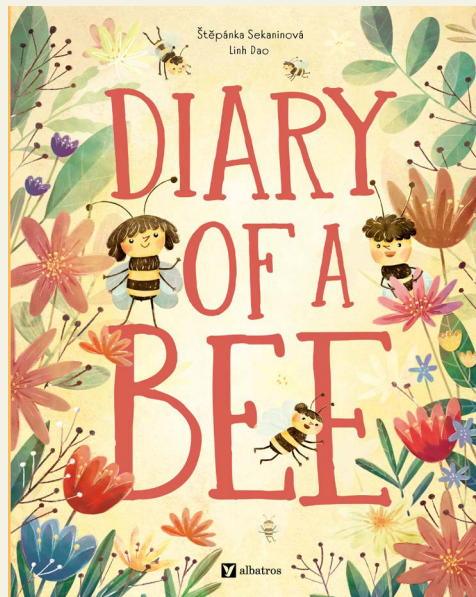


Welcome to the Anthill



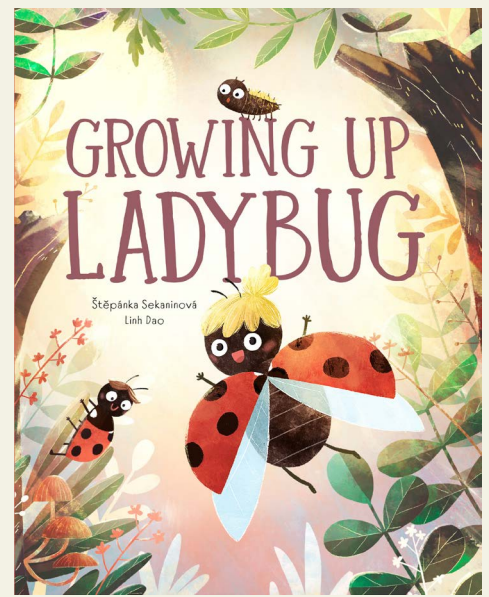
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