

Butterfly Garden

Each spring our entire school studies the life cycle of the butterfly. Upon the emergence of the butterflies they are released outside. Students have many questions and concerns about their butterflies. This project is an attempt to educate and help our butterfly to survive after the classroom.

Curriculum/State Standard

Science - how organisms interact with the environment

Reading - to gain information and implement research standards

Writing - to write to impart ideas and to inform

Overview

Students will research the life cycle of a butterfly, create a classroom habitat, and transport classroom habitat outdoors prior to releasing butterflies. Students will also create an informational pamphlet to be used by students and staff in lower grades.

Objectives

- The student will research via print material and Internet sources the habitat, species, and role of the butterfly.
- The student will plant various flower seeds that are beneficial to butterflies.
- The student will create a classroom habitat for butterflies and then transport it to the outside.
- The student will observe the life cycle of the butterfly in the classroom.
- The student will create an informational pamphlet.

Materials

Books on butterflies, computer with access to the Internet, flower seeds and soil, butterfly house, small gardening hand tools, various paper, butterfly larvae, (trip to a botanical garden optional)

Continued on the back...

4

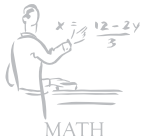
GRADE LEVEL



ARTS



LANGUAGE



MATH

Misc

MISCELLANEOUS



SCIENCE



HISTORY



SOCIAL STUDIES

4

MONTHS

\$300

TOTAL BUDGET

“Butterfly Garden” project continued...

Readiness Activity

Discuss what students currently know about butterflies and discuss what additional information students would like to know about the butterfly.

Strategies/Activities

Research the role of the butterfly in nature, its habitat, and various species. Plant various flower seeds that are beneficial to butterflies. Create a classroom habitat complete with flowers and larvae. Observe the stages of the larvae. Create an informational pamphlet and replant flowers in outside garden.

Culminating Activity

Students helped distribute larvae and butterfly information to all the classes in the building. When the butterflies were ready to be released, the class gathered in the garden near the planted flowers while another class watched from their windows as we read poems that the students had composed. One by one the butterflies were released. The students suggested that we create a book of their poems and give them to the kindergarten classes in the school.

Evaluation

Students were evaluated on the quality of the informational pamphlet, using a writing rubric aligned from the State Writing Assessment Scoring Guide.