Name: _____

Beautiful Butterflies and Marvelous Moths

by Guy Belleranti

What's the first thing you think of when you hear the words butterfly and moth? Flying large-winged insects with two long antennae? A four-stage life cycle called metamorphosis?

Well, all of these are true. Butterflies and moths also have other things in common. They have a number of differences as well.

First, let's look at a few other ways they are alike.

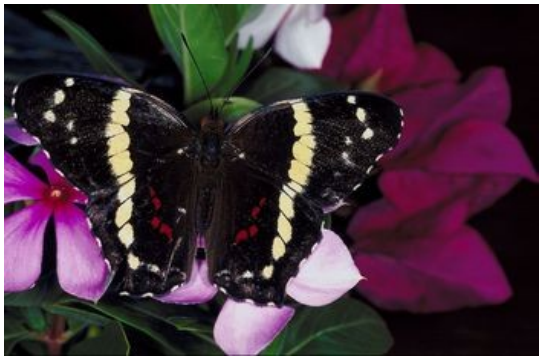
- Both are in the group of insects called lepidoptera.
- Both
- Both , working kind
- Both es come off and look like dust on your fingers.

Now let's look at some ways butterflies and moths are different.

- Most butterflies are diurnal meaning they are active during the day. Most moths are nocturnal meaning the are active at night.
- The bodies of butterflies are slender and smoother than the thicker and hairier moths.

- Butterfly antennae have thick knobs on their ends. Moth antennae are feathery or plain and with no knobs.
- Most butterflies rest with their wings folded together above their bodies. Most moths rest with their wings spread out to the sides.
- Most butterflies have colorful wings. Many moths aren't so bright and colorful, though there are some that are.

- While both insects go through a complete metamorphosis cycle - egg, larva (caterpillar), pupa, adult - their pupa stages are slightly different. A butterfly caterpillar forms a chrysalis, and hangs from a tree branch or other support. A moth caterpillar usually spins a silk cocoon. This cocoon might then be hidden among leaves or other debris on the ground.



Now you know some of the ways butterflies and moths are alike and different. Perhaps the next time you see one of these insects you can put your knowledge to work and try to determine which one it is.

Guy Bellerar

is article comes from

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1. What is a proboscis? Explain what it is used for.

_____

_____

2. Which set of animals is diurnal?

- **a.** moths, bats, and owls
- **b.** butterflies, raccoons, and bats
- **c.** moths, butterflies, and ladybugs
- **d.** butterflies, honeybees, and squirrels

3. A but

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4. Tell ho

_____ _____

_____

5. How did the author organize this article?

- **a.** He lists information in chronological order.
- **b.** He lists random facts about moths and butterflies.
- **c.** He groups facts about butterflies and moths in order of importance.
- **d.** He compares and contrasts moths and butterflies.

6. Reread the following sentence from the article.

The bodies of butterflies are slender and smoother than the thicker and harrier moths.

Choose the best definition for the underlined word.

- **a.** thick
- **b.** skinny
- **c.** heavy
- **d.** faster

ANSWER KEY

Beautiful Butterflies and Marvelous Moths

by Guy Belleranti

1. What is a proboscis? Explain what it is used for.

   It's a long tongue that uncoils for feeding. It works kind of like a drinking straw.

2. Which set of animals is diurnal? d

   a. moths, bats, and owls
   b. butterflies, raccoons, and bats
   c. moths, butterflies, and ladybugs
   d. butterflies, honeybees, and squirrels

3. A butterfly is a chrysalis in its pupa stage.

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4. Tell hc

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   a. thick
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   d. faster