Butterfly Scavenger Hunt Activity

Materials:
- Butterfly questions worksheet (pages 2-3),
- 18 butterfly fact cards (pages 4-8),
- Scissors and scotch tape

Preparation
Print the fact cards and cut them apart.
Make copies of the butterfly questions worksheet (2-sided). Each student will need his or her own copy.
Hide all 18 butterfly fact cards around your classroom where students will be able to find them.
You can put them on the back of your classroom door, on chairs, on the computer keyboard, on the sides of student desks, or wherever you like.

Activity
Students receive copies of the question worksheet. They have to search the classroom to find the fact cards to answer the questions.
After they have completed the question sheet, you can go over the answers together with the class.

Management tips
You may want to make this a silent activity so students don't share answers with each other.
You can have the kids work by themselves or with partners.
Don't be afraid to hide the facts in tough places. Kids think it's more fun when they have to search around a little.
Examples of good hiding spots might include:

- sticking out of a book, like a bookmark
- the back of the classroom door
- laying flat on the bookshelf
- on the back of the teacher's chair
- on the side of your computer monitor

Have a plan for students who finish early. You may want to have an assignment for them to complete when they're done, or you may have them help other students find fact cards.
Butterfly

The second stage of a butterfly's life is larva. A butterfly in the larva stage is called a caterpillar.

The third stage of a butterfly's life is pupa. A butterfly in the pupa stage is called a chrysalis.
The fourth stage of a butterfly's life is adult. An adult butterfly has wings and can fly.

Monarch butterflies will only lay their eggs on the leaves of milkweed plants. They will not lay eggs on any other type of leaf.

An adult butterfly's body is divided into three segments. The top or front is called the head. The middle is called the thorax. The bottom or end is called the abdomen.
Butterflies have a long, thin tube called a proboscis on their head. The proboscis is like a straw that is used to drink nectar from flowers.

Butterflies can only fly when temperatures are warm and dry.

Butterflies can taste with their legs. They use their legs to help them figure out what types of plant they have landed on.

Butterflies can only fly when temperatures are warm and dry. If the temperature is too cold or wet, a butterfly cannot fly.

When a butterfly first comes out of its chrysalis it cannot fly. Its wings are damp and wrinkled. It hangs upside down for an hour or more so blood can get into its abdomen and wings.
At night, butterflies hide beneath leaves of trees and other plants with large leaves. They hang upside-down with their wings closed.

Moths are active at night and rest during the day. Butterflies are active during the day and rest at night.

Adult Monarch butterflies can live up to nine months. Most species of adult butterflies live about one month. The smallest species of butterflies can live a week or less.
The smallest butterfly species in the world is the Western Pigmy Blue butterfly. It is less than an inch long.

A butterfly's pupa stage is a chrysalis. A moth's pupa stage is a cocoon.
Butterfly Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 1: How many legs does an adult butterfly have?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 2: What is the first stage of a butterfly's life?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 3: What is a butterfly larva called?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 4: What is a butterfly pupa called?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 5: Which stage is a butterfly in when it has wings and can fly?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 6: What do butterflies drink from flowers?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 7: On what type of plant do Monarch butterflies lay their eggs?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 8: What are the three segments of an adult butterfly's body?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 9: Why don't people usually see butterflies on cold days?

__________________________________________________________________
Butterfly Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 10: What body part do butterflies taste with?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 11: What is a butterfly’s proboscis used for?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 12: Why do butterflies hang upside down when it comes out of its chrysalis?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 15: When do moths rest?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 16: How long does an adult Monarch butterfly live?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 17: What is the smallest species of butterfly in the world?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 18: What is a moth’s pupa stage called?
__________________________________________________________________

Preview
Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.
Butterfly Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 1: How many legs does an adult butterfly have?

six

Fact Card 2: What is the first stage of a butterfly's life?

egg

Fact Card 3: What is a butterfly larva called?

caterpillar

Fact Card 4: What is a butterfly pupa called?

Fact Card 5: Which stage is a butterfly in when it has wings and can fly?

Fact Card 6: What do butterflies drink from flowers?

nectar

Fact Card 7: On what type of plant do Monarch butterflies lay their eggs?

milkweed

Fact Card 8: What are the three segments of an adult butterfly's body?

head, thorax, abdomen

Fact Card 9: Why don't people usually see butterflies on cold days?

They can't fly when the temperature is cold.
legs

sipping nectar from flowers

To dry off and get blood into their abdomen and wings

Fact Card 15: When do moths rest?

during the day

Fact Card 16: How long does an adult Monarch butterfly live?

up to 9 months

Fact Card 17: What is the smallest species of butterfly in the world?

Western Pigmy Blue Butterfly

Fact Card 18: What is a moth’s pupa stage called?

cocoon