



# Caladenia



Hi Everyone and welcome to our Butterflies Activity Pack.

As the season warms up I'm seeing more and more butterflies in the garden. Let's hope they aren't cabbage moths!

If you have ideas for a theme for an activity pack – or there is something you would really like to see included – please let us know!

Due to the current circumstances you may be feeling a range of emotions. If there is anything you need, or if you would just like a chat – please call us.

Have a great week – we are thinking of you!

The Caladenia team



# Butterflies

The lifecycle of a butterfly starts with the female butterfly who deposits her eggs onto a specific plant. The female has odour detectors which allow her to locate the plant, sometimes from as far away as two or three kilometres. The trick to encouraging butterflies into your garden is to cultivate these plants. You can easily find out which are tasty for the caterpillars in your area by ringing a reputable plant nursery.

Caterpillars are fussy eaters, and usually a species will only eat one or two types of plants. If you were wondering why we don't see as many butterflies around as we used to, it's because the use of herbicides has reduced the supply of plants that caterpillars can eat.

No caterpillars = no butterflies!

Approximately four to five days after the fertilised egg has been laid, the caterpillar eats its way out of the shell, often turning around and ingesting it. If the female laid on the correct plant, the caterpillar then goes on to eat its first meal, and with a few exceptions, this meal is basically uninterrupted – these caterpillars are the original eating machine. Being very small when it first emerges, the caterpillar soon becomes too big for its skin, and within a week, it will attach its hind parts onto a leaf by way of silk, it will rest for a while, and then literally walk out of its skin. The new skin has enough stretch in it to allow further growth and during its time as a caterpillar, it will repeat this process another three times. Often the new skin differs slightly in pattern or colour to the previous one.

Each stage is called an "instar". The pupa or chrysalis stage is the final instar of the caterpillar where the metamorphosis takes place. The caterpillar spins a silken pad, then using hooks on the bottom end of its body (called the "cremaster") which it attaches to the silk. Some species hang head down while other species also spin a girdle around the thorax that holds it in an upright position. The caterpillar then forms the pupa case under the caterpillar skin and sheds the old caterpillar skin. Inside the pupa, the body of the caterpillar deconstructs and then reforms into the butterfly. This can take anywhere from one to four weeks in a tropical climate and even longer in cooler climates.

When the butterfly finally emerges, it is a fully formed adult, with only the wings needing to be pumped up and dried. Then off it will fly, ready to play its part in starting the entire life cycle all over again. What is the reason for all this complexity you may ask? Two distinct advantages are that the adult form (butterfly) eats nectar, rotting fruit or sometimes sap, and does not compete for food resources with the young (caterpillars). Being able to fly in the reproductive part of the cycle also means that the gene pool is greater than if restricted to a small area.

The best way to attract butterflies to your garden is to plant the plants that the caterpillar stage of the butterflies in your area eat. Caterpillars are very specific about what they will and won't eat, so female butterflies are equipped with an extremely good sense of smell in order that they can lay their eggs on the correct plant(s). It stands to reason then that having these plants in your garden will attract female butterflies from all around your area – some can even smell their host plant from several kilometres away!

You will also attract male butterflies into your garden by planting a butterfly host plant garden – after all, the boys are always on the lookout for the girls! There are a couple of things to remember when planting and caring for your butterfly friendly plants. Don't have them in a prime spot in your garden – remember the whole idea is that the leaves will be eaten by caterpillars! Secondly – don't spray them with insecticides. Be careful with the amount of fertiliser you apply. Even that can affect a caterpillar's sensitive constitution.

Not all the butterflies and moths listed below will fly in your area – a huge percentage of Australia's butterflies and moths are found in the tropical rainforests in north Queensland (which is why we are here!). It's best to check with your local nursery as to whether or not the plants are available/will grow in your area. Chances are that if conditions are conducive and the plants occur throughout your region, the butterflies and moths will also be there to take advantage of the food. And while you're at it – don't forget butterflies need to eat too, so don't forget to plant some flowers for nectar. Pentas or Ixora are good as they are multi-headed and have lots of nectar. Have fun!

## What is the national butterfly of Australia

*Papilio ulysses*, the **Ulysses butterfly** (also commonly known as the Blue emperor), is a large **swallowtail butterfly** of **Australia**, **Indonesia**, **Papua New Guinea** and the **Solomon Islands**. Its size varies depending on **subspecies**, but the wingspan is about 10.5 cm (4.1 in) in **Queensland**.<sup>[1]</sup>

Q: Why couldn't the butterfly go to the dance?

A: Because it was a moth ball!

Q: What do moths study in school?

A: Mathematics!

Q: Why did the boy throw the butter out the window?

A: Wanted to see the butter fly

Q: Which insect is the ruler of the insect world?

A: The monarch

***How do you make a butterfly?***

***Flick it out of the butter dish with a knife!***

***What insect lives on nothing?***

***A moth, because it eats holes***

***What's pretty, delicate and carries a sub machine gun?***

***A killer butterfly!***

***What do you get if you cross a firefly and a moth?***

***An insect who can find its way around a dark wardrobe!***

***How do stones stop moths eating your clothes?***

***Because rolling stones gather no moths!***

***What is a myth?***

***A female Moth!***

***Why did the moth nibble a hole in the carpet?***

***He wanted to see the floor show!***



## Butterflies taste with their feet.

Butterflies do not only taste their food. They taste their nests in a sense. You see, butterflies lay their eggs on the leaves of a plant, which stick to it like the stickiest glue. After the eggs hatch, the caterpillars eat not just the leaf but all the other leaves of the plant, that is, if they like the taste of it. If they don't, they'll starve and die. So the butterfly has to choose the plant well, making sure its leaves are tasty enough for its young to eat.



## Butterflies were once believed to steal butter.

Have you ever wondered why butterflies are called such? There are several theories. Some say it was because many butterflies are yellow like the colour of butter. Others say it was because butterflies have wings that were as soft as butter. Others, still, say that it was because the poop of butterflies is yellow just like butter.

There is another theory – in medieval times, butterflies were often seen on butter churns, those barrel-like containers where cream is made into butter (probably because butterflies like sweets). In fact, this was such a common sight that some folk started to believe that the butterflies were witches that stole butter.

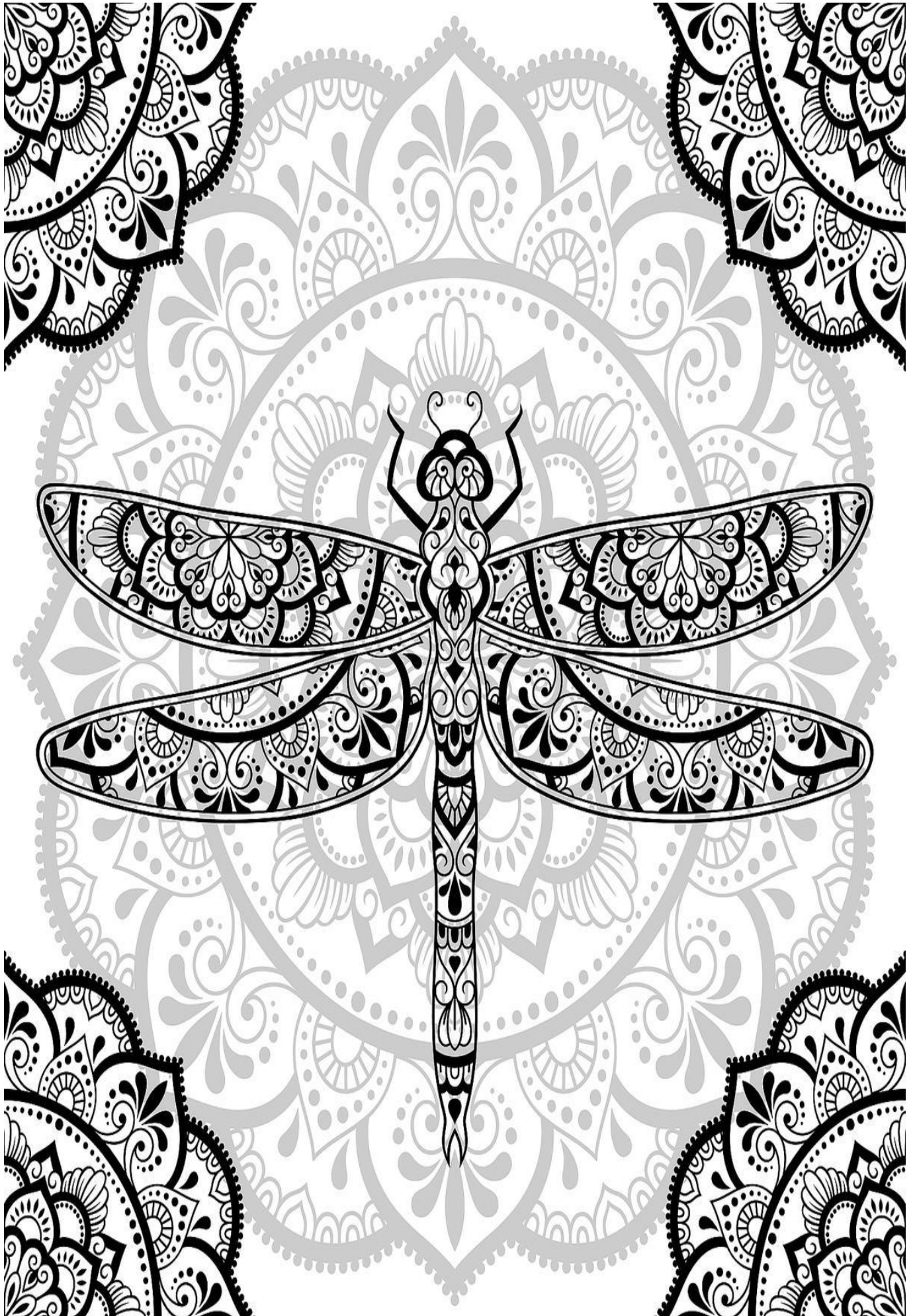
Caterpillars spend most of their time eating and when they become butterflies, they no longer eat. All they do is drink nectar, water, tree sap or the juice from fruits. Some also drink from muddy puddles to get the minerals there.

## Butterflies have transparent wings.

If you think butterflies have wings that are like leaves or flower petals that have their own colours, you're wrong. Butterfly wings, which are made of a special type of protein, are actually transparent. However, they are covered in scales, which can easily come off when they are touched. These scales are what give butterfly wings their colour as well as some measure of protection. Sometimes, these scales also release certain chemicals that play a role in finding a mate.

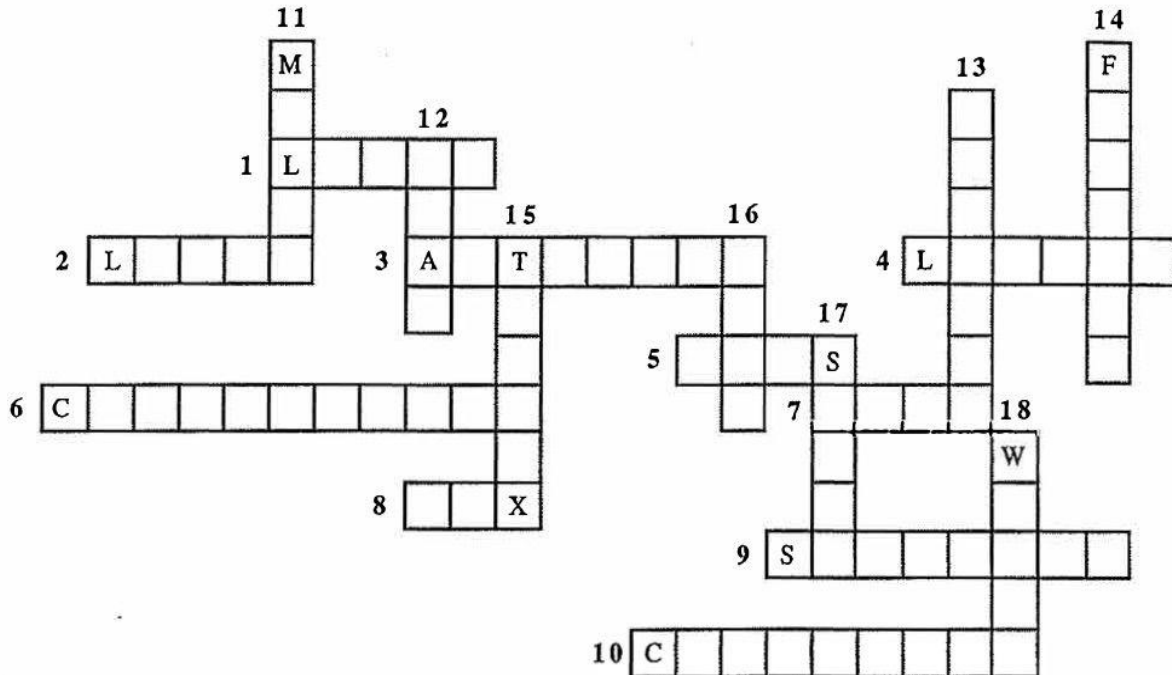
In Japan, butterflies are also believed to represent souls, not just of the dead but also of the living. In fact, when a butterfly perches on the bamboo screen, it is a sign that the person you want to see the most is coming to see you.





## BUTTERFLY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Can you complete this crossword puzzle?



### ACROSS:

1. Butterflies like the \_\_\_\_\_, not the dark.
2. A caterpillar is sometimes called a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The feelers of a butterfly are called \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The caterpillar eats the \_\_\_\_\_ of a plant.
5. The caterpillar uses its \_\_\_\_\_ to walk about.
6. The butterfly's egg hatches into a \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Caterpillars hatch from \_\_\_\_\_ which the butterfly lays.
8. How many legs does a butterfly have?
9. The caterpillar's body is made up of small \_\_\_\_\_.
10. The caterpillar becomes a \_\_\_\_\_ before it becomes a butterfly.

### DOWN:

11. Painted lady caterpillars like to eat the leaves of this plant.
12. The eyes of a butterfly are found on her \_\_\_\_\_.
13. Butterflies are from a group of animals called \_\_\_\_\_.
14. Butterflies drink the sweet nectar from \_\_\_\_\_.
15. The middle part of the butterfly's body, where the legs and wings are found, is called the \_\_\_\_\_.
16. The butterfly has very good \_\_\_\_\_ to see flowers and leaves.
17. The bristles on a caterpillar are called \_\_\_\_\_.
18. The insects which have these, always have four. What are they?

# Butterfly Life Cycle Word Search

Rules: forward words, backward words, up words, down words, diagonal words.



ADULT  
BUTTERFLY  
CATERPILLAR  
CHANGES  
CHRYSLIS



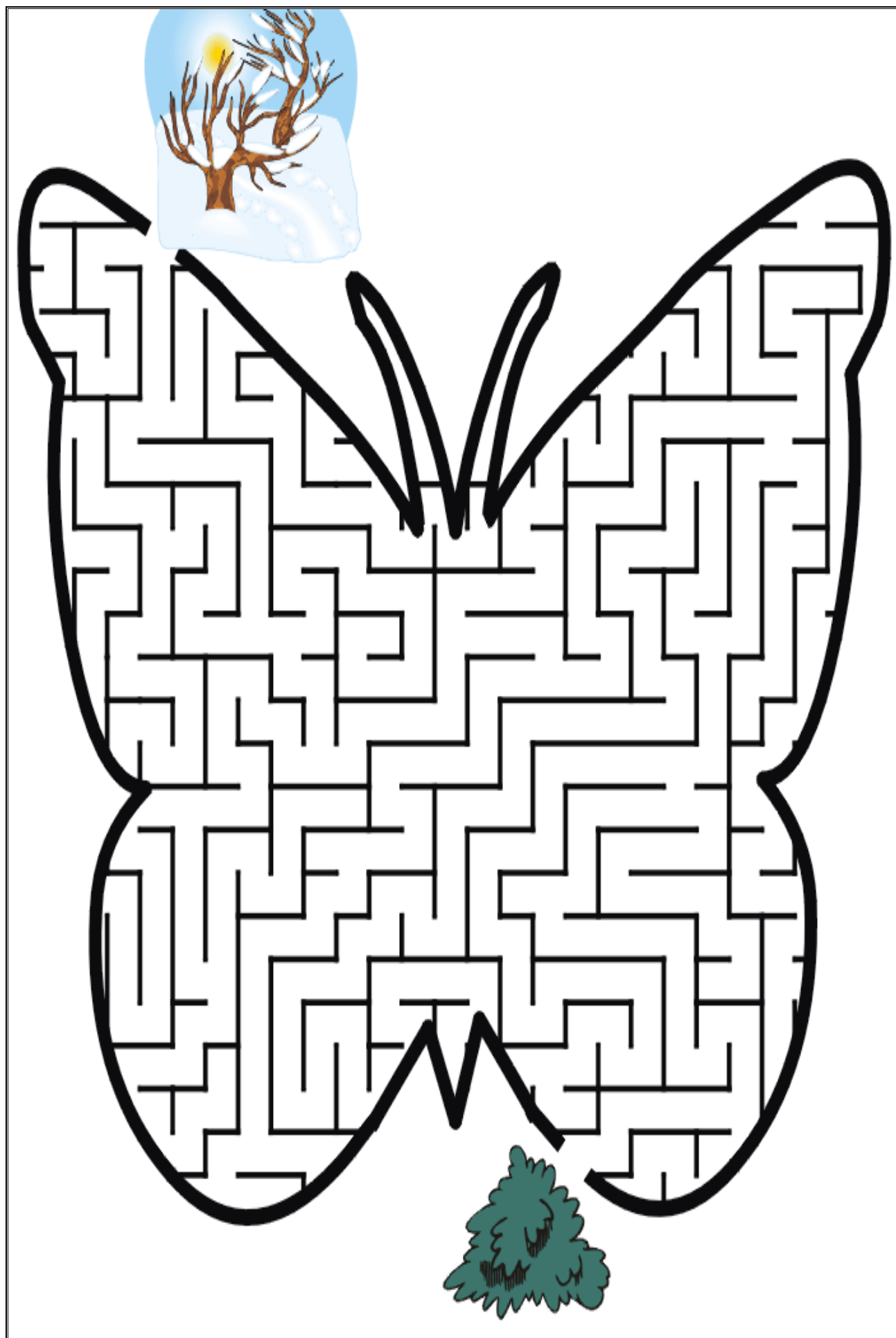
EMERGE  
GROW  
INSTAR  
LARVAE  
METAMORPHOSIS



MOLTING  
ORGANISM  
PUDDING  
PUPA  
WINGS

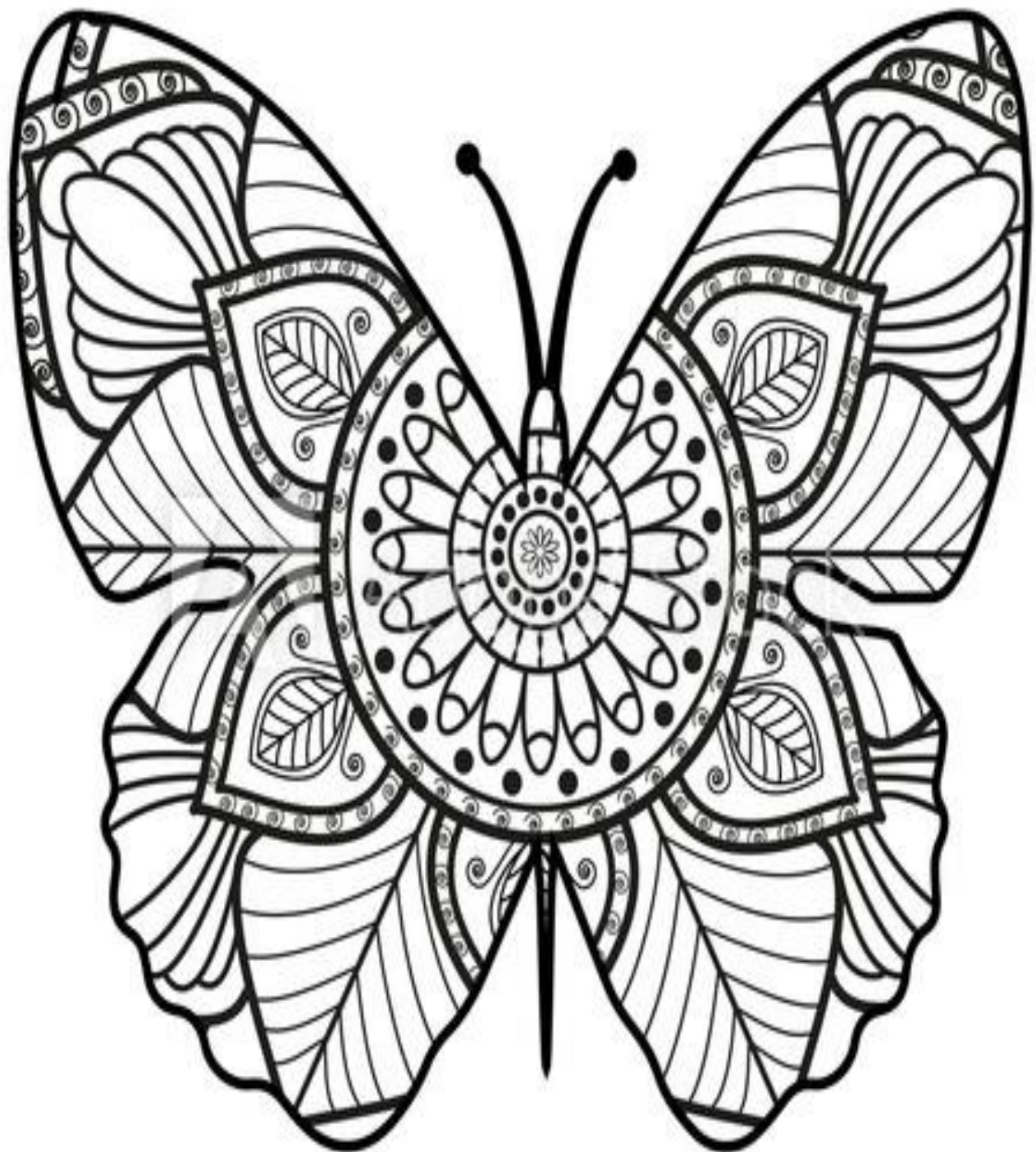


# Butterfly Maze





## Mindfulness and Relaxation

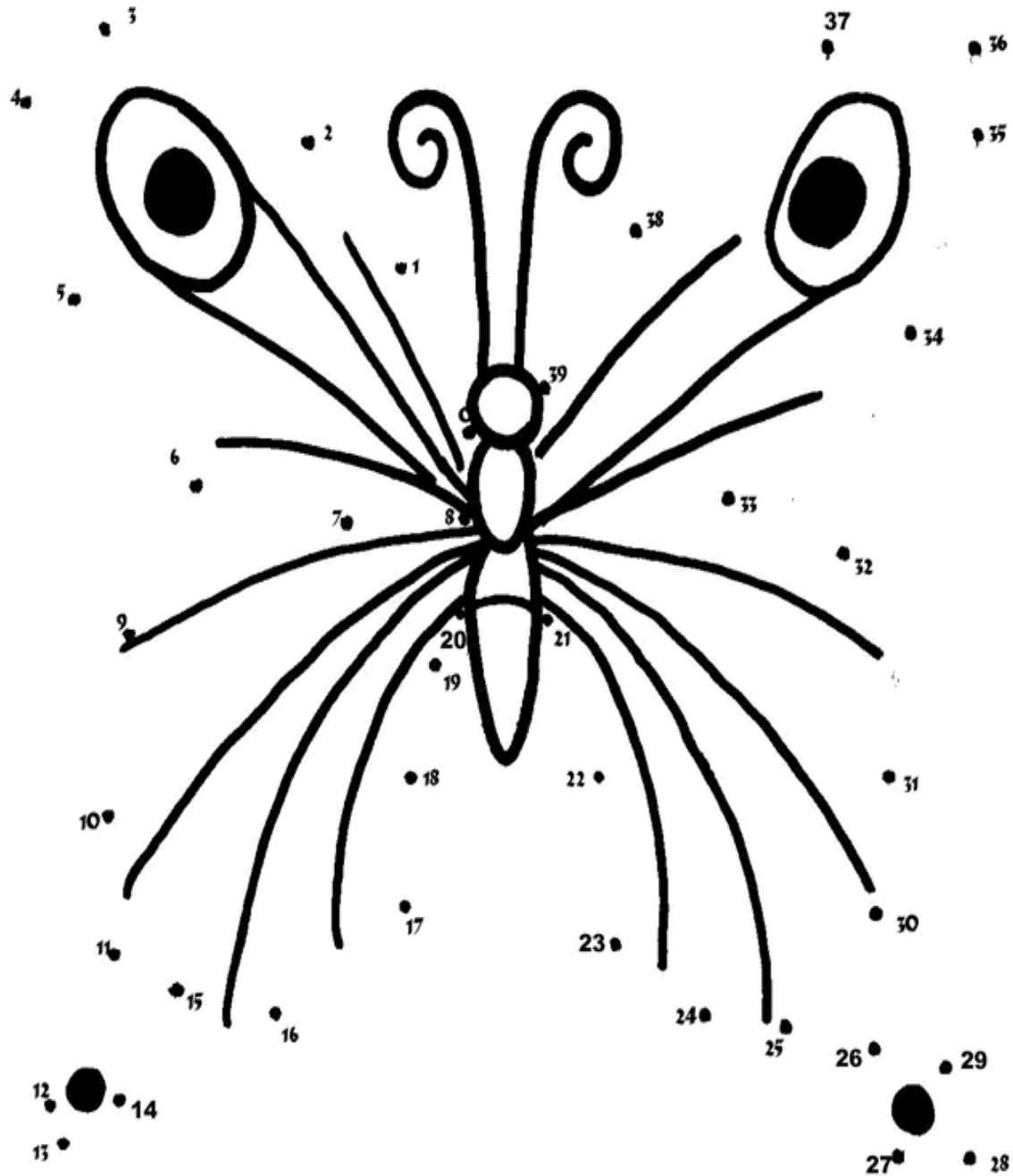


How many words can you make out of the word

# BUTTERFLY?

This image shows a full page of primary-ruled paper. It features ten sets of horizontal dashed lines, each set consisting of three parallel lines. These lines are evenly spaced vertically across the entire page, providing a guide for letter height and placement in handwriting practice. The background is plain white, and there are no margins or additional markings.

Join the dots – What do you see?



Just to make you laugh!! 😊





Poetry is good for the soul

## *Life Is Precious*

*The gracefulness  
of a butterfly,  
How gentle,  
and fragile they seem.*

*Gently fluttering,  
on a calm summers day,  
Floating like ,  
a dream.*

*But sadly,  
there time is over,  
Hardly before  
it's begun.*

*So enjoy  
your special moments,  
Like a butterfly,  
In the sun.*





# Word Search

## BUTTERFLIES



O N B N A T I V E A P P M U  
 I C G R A C E F U L I U E P  
 M A Z A N T E N N A E P T O  
 A T E V X N E C T A R A A L  
 G E L E C I H A J Z T R M L  
 O R E C O L O U R F U L O I  
 P P G L A R V A Y F A W R N  
 O I A X Z X X L E G S I P A  
 L L N X M A G I C A L N H T  
 L L T E G G U Z I F G G O E  
 E A H A T C H V Y L R S S T  
 N R B U T T E R F L Y I I C  
 O X L I F E C Y C L E L S N  
 I T R A N S F O R M H X E D

Antennae

Butterfly

Caterpillar

Wings

Egg

Elegant

Graceful

Hatch

Imago

Larva

Legs

Lifecycle

Magical

Metamorphosis

Native

Nectar

Pollen

Pollinate

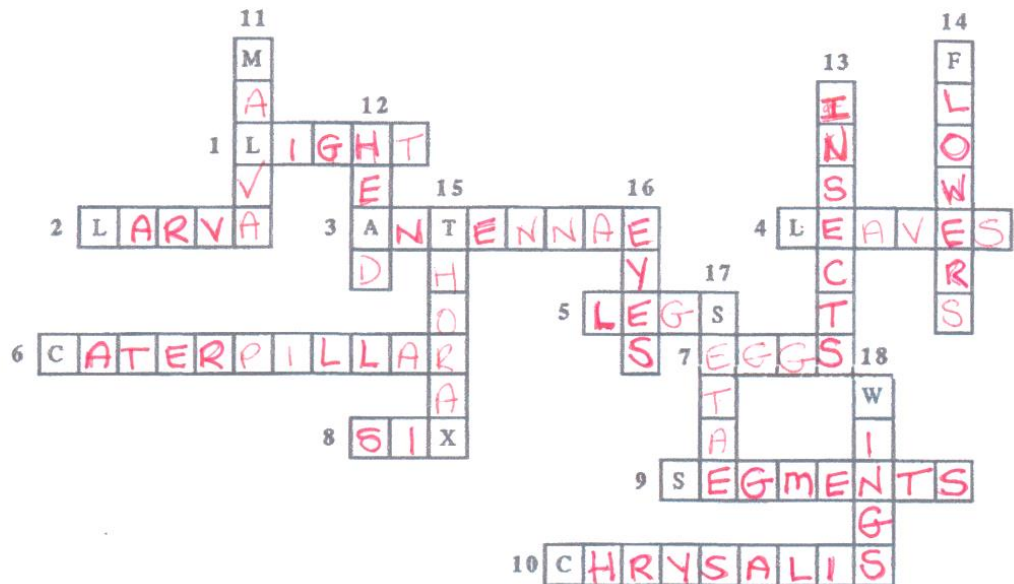
Pupa

Transform

# Butterfly Crossword Answers

## BUTTERFLY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Can you complete this crossword puzzle?



### ACROSS:

- Butterflies like the Light, not the dark.
- A caterpillar is sometimes called a Larva.
- The feelers of a butterfly are called Antennae.
- The caterpillar eats the leaves of a plant.
- The caterpillar uses its legs to walk about.
- The butterfly's egg hatches into a Caterpillar.
- Caterpillars hatch from EGGS which the butterfly lays.
- How many legs does a butterfly have? six
- The caterpillar's body is made up of small Segments.
- The caterpillar becomes a chrysalis before it becomes a butterfly.

### DOWN:

- Painted lady caterpillars like to eat the leaves of this plant. malva
- The eyes of a butterfly are found on her head.
- Butterflies are from a group of animals called insects.
- Butterflies drink the sweet nectar from Flowers.
- The middle part of the butterfly's body, where the legs and wings are found, is called the thorax.
- The butterfly has very good eyes to see flowers and leaves.
- The bristles on a caterpillar are called Setae.
- The insects which have these, always have four. What are they? Wings.

## Butterfly Life Cycle Wordsearch Answers

### Butterfly Life Cycle Word Search

Rules: forward words, backward words, up words, down words, diagonal words.



ADULT  
BUTTERFLY  
CATERPILLAR  
CHANGES  
CHRYSALIS

EMERGE  
GROW  
INSTAR  
LARVAE  
METAMORPHOSIS

MOLTING  
ORGANISM  
PUDDING  
PUPA  
WINGS



## A large butterfly-shaped maze with a complex black line pattern. A pink line traces a path from the top-left entrance, through the wings, and exits at the bottom-right. The butterfly has three antennae at the top. At the top-left entrance is a small illustration of a winter scene with a tree, a sun, and snow. At the bottom-right exit is a small green bush.



# Word Search

## BUTTERFLIES



Antennae ·

Butterfly ·

Caterpillar ·

Wings ·

Egg ·

Elegant ·

Graceful ·

Hatch ·

Imago ·

Larva ·

Legs ·

Lifecycle ·

Magical ·

Metamorphosis ·

Native ·

Nectar ·

Pollen ·

Pollinate ·

Pupa ·

Transform ·