

Ten Butterfly activities your kids will love!

1. Learn about Butterflies

Start your butterfly journey by learning all about them. Check out these great websites:

- [Butterfly Website for Kids](#)
- [The Butterfly Website](#)

2. Search for Butterflies

The perfect butterfly activity is to go on a **nature bushwalk** and hunt for butterflies. You'll need to focus on finding a butterfly if you're searching for them, one could flutter right past you and you'd miss it. It might take some time but when you finally find one, you'll smile from ear-to-ear! Make sure you take these **explorer essentials** with you too!

3. Make the mask

It can be hard to find Butterflies in the wild so I've created a mask for children to help them connect with the colourful insect through play. This butterfly mask is a Richmond Bird Wing Butterfly.





You can also download the eyes and proboscis (tongue) **butterfly** mask [here](#).

3. Butterfly play

When we play this simple game at home, the girls love it. Simply ask your children to act out exactly what you say. Use a calm, gentle voice and talk about each part of the butterfly's life cycle.

Here's what I usually say:

A tiny little egg sat on a leaf. It was very still and very small. The egg was still for quite some time (pause).

The insect inside started to wriggle. It didn't break open the egg, it was just getting ready to leave its comfy warm egg home (pause).

Suddenly, the egg hatched and out popped a little caterpillar. It slowly stretched its body out long and moved all its limbs one by one (pause).

The caterpillar's tummy grumbled and it started to look for some nice, juicy leaves to eat. It ate and ate and got bigger and bigger until it was so big it could hardly move.

Then, it started weaving a cocoon around itself. It weaved a silk button below its feet. Next, it shed its skin by gently wiggling the body until it was covered in a chrysalis. It was very patient while the body changed within this new home. The caterpillar waited and waited and waited (pause).

When the caterpillar was ready it started to make its way out of the chrysalis. Gently, it pushed its way out making sure it didn't damage the delicate wings. Once it had climbed out, it raised its beautiful, colourful wings and froze to let them dry.

When the butterfly felt confident it flapped his wings and rose in to the air. it fluttered past trees and through the forest looking for beautiful colourful fruits to eat.'

5. Read Butterfly Books

There are a heap of butterfly books out there. Go to your local library and you'll find plenty. We have been focusing on two books about butterflies. The very popular book by Eric Carle, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and *Birdwings' New home* by Lynette Reilly.

If you love this you will adore this [Hungry Caterpillar Nature Craft!](#)

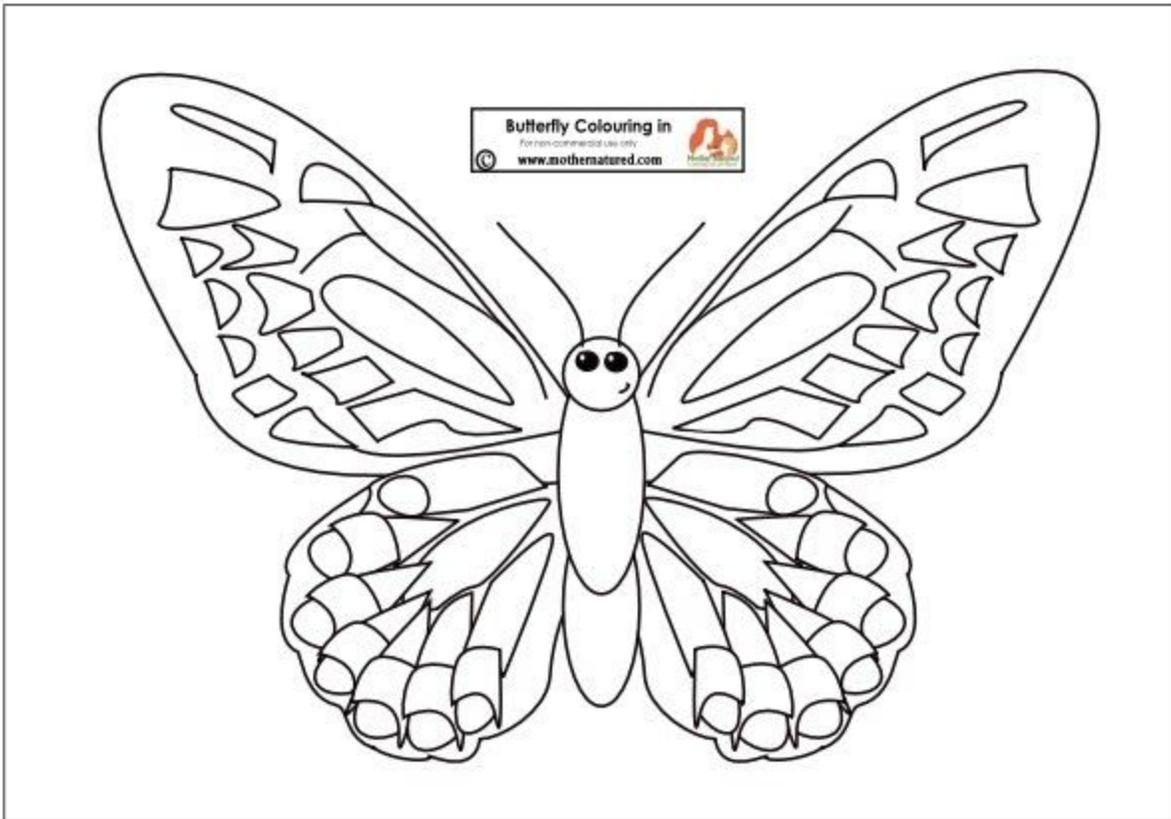
6. Plant a Butterfly Vine

We were lucky enough to get a Richmond Bird Wing Butterfly vine to plant in our garden. It wouldn't take much to find out about a vine to plant that would help a butterfly in your area.



7. Colour in this Butterfly Colouring Page

Butterfly Mask colour in



8. Visit a butterfly house

It's quite sad that we don't have a butterfly house where we live any more. I know my girls would be memorised seeing so many butterflies up-close and watching them feed using their long **proboscis**. It would also be really good to see the different chrysalis made by different butterflies.

9. Rescue Butterflies

This website explains **how to help a butterfly** should you find a sick or injured one. It gives you a solution to feed butterflies and also explains how to hold them without damaging their wings.

10. Butterfly Conservation – How can you help?

Butterfly Conservation has a lovely list of ways that you can help with butterfly conservation. Read on and act for butterflies!