

Glossary

Abdomen: The rear section of an insect's body.

Alike: Acting or looking the same.

Antenna (plural, antennae): A long, thin organ on the head of butterflies and some other insects. The antennae help an insect feel and smell.

Brainstorm: To share ideas on a topic. People often brainstorm to solve a problem.

Bristle: A stiff, short hair.

Caterpillar: The larva of a butterfly.

Chrysalis: The third stage in the butterfly's life cycle. Also called cocoon or pupa.

Communicate: To share information and ideas through speaking, writing, or drawing.

Compare: To look at two or more things to see how they are alike or different.

Data: Information, such as that gathered during an experiment.

Describe: To use words to explain how something looks, feels, or acts.

Different: Not the same.

Exoskeleton: A stiff, outer skeleton that covers an insect.

Experiment: A procedure that is carried out to investigate a scientific question.

Fair test: A test that compares two or more things by keeping everything the same except the thing being compared. A race is a fair test. Everyone starts at the same place and at the same time and ends at the same place. The only thing that is different is the speed of the runners.

Frass: Waste material of the caterpillar.

Graph: A diagram used to show the relationship between things.

Guess: To give an idea about something when you are not sure.

Investigate: To study something closely and in an organized way.

Larva: The second stage in the life cycle of the butterfly. Also called a caterpillar.

Length: The distance from one end of something to the other.

Living: Alive; not dead.

Mallow plant, or *Malva neglecta*: A plant that has rounded leaves and small flowers. It grows about two feet high. The Painted Lady Butterfly lays her eggs in the leaves of this plant.

Measure: To find out the length, size, or weight of something.

Metamorphosis: A process of change. The butterfly undergoes metamorphosis as it moves from egg to caterpillar to chrysalis to winged adult.

Molt: To shed an outer layer of skin.

Object: Something you can see or feel.

Observe: To use your senses to study something closely.

Pattern: A repeating arrangement of shapes, colors, numbers, or other things.

Plot: To locate a point or points on a graph.

Predict: To say what you think is going to happen.

Proboscis: A “mouth tube” on the head of a butterfly and some other animals. The butterfly unrolls the proboscis and uses it to suck sweet fluid from flowers.

Procedure: A set of steps that tells how to do something.

Property: Something about an object that helps tell what it is.

Pupa: The third stage in the butterfly's life cycle. Also called chrysalis or cocoon.

Same: Alike; not different.

Segment: A part of something.

Senses: Touch, taste, smell, sight, and hearing.

Shape: The form of an object.

Size: A measurement of how big something is.

Sort: To put things into groups on the basis of a property, such as color or shape.

Thorax: The middle section of an insect's body.

Tool: An object used to do a task.

Unit: A fixed quantity used as a standard of measure. Inches, miles, meters, degrees, and kilograms are all units.

Weight: A measurement of how heavy something is.