

National Geographic Kids Reader: Butterflies

Notes for parents: reading this book with your child

- Before your child shares this book with you, look at the front cover and discuss what they know about butterflies and their life cycle. Prompt them to think about what they know from seeing butterflies and caterpillars in the local environment and on wildlife programmes.
- Challenge children to describe the butterfly's wing pattern and name any body parts they can see.
- Here are some ways you can help your child as they learn to read more complex information books:
 - Check that your child can pronounce *Monarch*. Help them to read the other creature and place names: *Oyamel forests, wildebeest, oriole, grosbeaks*.
 - Discuss the *Wing Words* that are featured in the glossary together: *migration, mate, instinct, generation, predator, toxin, milkweed, chrysalis, nectar, habitat, deforestation*. Talk about what the words mean using the definitions provided.
 - Encourage your child to explain how Monarchs migrate over several generations, referring to the information in the book.
 - Discuss the maps and what they show, helping your child to use the information from the words and pictures to make meaning.
 - Talk about powerful ideas that interest them, e.g. how deforestation is affecting Monarch butterflies in the USA; how to protect and save butterflies in the local environment.
- Discuss the cool things on pages 38–39. Challenge your child to find more cool facts that could be added to this list.

Pronunciation guide: Monarch (*Mon-ark*), Oyamel (*Oy-ah-mel*), oriole (*or-ee-ol*), grosbeaks (*groh-s-beaks*)

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