



MAY ACTIVITY SHEET

Use this activity sheet to explore the **museum world** in a whole new way!

MAY ACTIVITIES

While the museum is closed, we hope you'll continue exploring our natural world. This month, dedicate some time to observing the beautiful butterflies that are taking to the skies in our region.

Below, you'll find tips from Academy entomologists (scientists who study insects) to help you find and take great photos of butterflies. And on the back of this sheet, you'll find a useful guide to identify the butterflies you find while exploring.

PHOTOGRAPHING BUTTERFLIES

Finding butterflies in nature can be even more fun when you're armed with a camera and take photos to share with your friends and family. Our Academy entomologists have shared these useful tips to find butterflies and take great photos of the specimens you see.

Finding butterflies:

- Go outside! You can find butterflies almost anywhere outdoors
- Go out on a sunny day
- Look for flowers that offer nectar
- Plant native flowers in your outdoor space
- If possible, create diverse habitats: open sunny areas, shaded areas or even wild, weedy areas

Photographing butterflies:

- Take the first photo from a distance — the butterfly may fly away as you approach
- Be mindful of your shadow — the change in light will scare the butterfly
- Get the butterfly's eye in focus for a great photo
- Try different camera angles
- If possible, use a selfie stick to get closer



Isa S. Betancourt/ANS



Jon Gelhaus/ANS

BUTTERFLY IDENTIFICATION

As you spot butterflies outdoors, use this page to identify some of the most commonly found spring butterflies around Philadelphia. If you love butterflies and bugs, you can visit the Academy Blog to find more resources to further your learning.



Cabbage White
(*Pieris rapae*)



Falcate Orangetip
(*Anthocharis midea*)



Question Mark
(*Polygonia interrogationis*)



Comma
(*Polygonia comma*)



Mourning Cloak
(*Nymphalis antiopa*)



Brown Elfin
(*Callophrys augustinus*)



Pine Elfin
(*Callophrys niphon*)



Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
(*Papilio glaucus*)



Zebra Swallowtail
(*Eurytides marcellus*)



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