


NATURE QUEST

Nature Quest challenges kids of all ages to be curious about nature, right here in southeast Indiana. Take this sheet to a nature preserve, park, or wildlife refuge. Complete each part of the grid below. We'll release new Nature Quest challenges throughout the season. Complete all eight challenges, and you can enter to win the Grand Prize!

Materials you might take along:

- Pictures of common milkweed and the monarch life cycle (including egg, larva, and adult).
- Pencil and/or colored pencils, and a notebook
- Books or field guides from the "Library Thing" list for this challenge

Tip: A good park for this Nature Quest is Monarch Meadows Nature Preserve in Rising Sun, Indiana. Find directions, trail maps, and more at www.oakheritageconservancy.org - or do this challenge at any park with pollinator habitat.

<p>Find a patch of milkweed or other wildflowers in bloom. Sit quietly and see if any butterflies are active here. What are they doing?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flying • Drinking nectar from flowers • Resting 	<p>Monarchs migrate from Mexico to Canada and back every year - that's a long trip! Indiana is along their migration path. Pretend you are a monarch. Draw how you would feel stopping for a break in Indiana!</p>	<p>It takes four generations of butterflies to make the trip to and from Mexico. Monarchs can only lay their eggs on milkweed.</p> <p>Can you find any growing here?</p>
<p>Different types of butterflies need different colors of flowers. List what colors you see - or make a collage of colors. Diversity is beautiful!</p>		<p>Monarch caterpillars have yellow, black, and white stripes. They can only eat milkweed. Can you spot caterpillars munching? Draw them here (If you can't find any, use your imagination and have fun drawing).</p>
<p>Monarch caterpillars make a "chrysalis" (like a cocoon). Look for one hanging from a wildflower or bush. Write a poem about what it would be like to go in as a caterpillar and - 14 days later - come out a butterfly!</p>	<p>Curious to learn more about monarch butterflies' migration? When your family gets home, take time together to visit www.journeynorth.org/monarch/ and click "Kids" for neat videos of monarchs coming out of their chrysalis, maps of their migration route, and more!</p>	<p>Monarchs have compound eyes with thousands of lenses. Draw what you think the world looks like from a monarch's view.</p>

Find more Nature Quest challenges, and enter to win the Grand Prize, at www.oakheritageconservancy.org/nature-quest

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