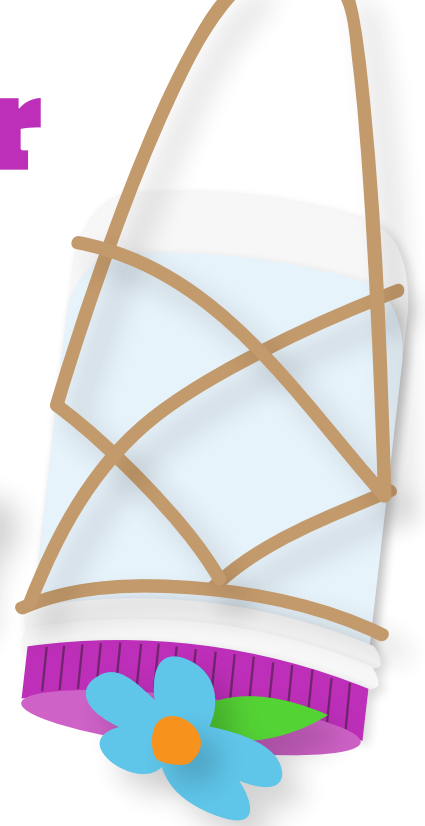


Butterfly Feeder

Collect

- Canning jar with lid
- Hammer and nail
- String or twine
- New kitchen sponge
- Brightly colored paint for outdoor use
- Craft foam
- Scissors
- Hot glue
- Sugar
- Water
- Sauce Pan



Make a fake flower

1. Butterflies are attracted to red, yellow, orange, pink and purple blossoms. Paint the lid of the canning jar with one of these bright, floral colors to help attract butterflies to your feeder.
2. Cut out flower shapes from craft foam and hot glue them to your jar, near the lid, to simulate blooming flowers.

Build the feeder

3. Using the hammer and nail, make a small hole in the center of the canning jar lid.
4. Cut a 1/2 inch strip from the kitchen sponge and feed it through the hole in the lid so that half is sticking through either side of the hole.
Tip: Twist and push the sponge through the hole as far as you can, then use tweezers to pull the sponge the rest of the way through.
5. The sponge should fit in the hole tightly, but still allow liquid to absorb to the end of the sponge. Test the feeder by pouring some water into the jar and twisting on the lid. Flip the jar upside down and check to see if water can still make it to the end of the sponge that is outside the jar.
Tip: If water is dripping out around the hole or through the sponge, cut a wider piece of sponge and test again.

Prepare the butterfly food.

6. Add 9 tablespoons of water and 1 tablespoon of sugar to a sauce pan.
7. Bring the mixture to a boil so that the sugar dissolves into the water.
8. Remove the liquid from the heat and allow it to cool. Once cooled, fill your jar with the liquid and find a nice spot outside for your butterfly feeder.

Feed the butterflies!

9. Cut four strings of about 2 1/2 - 3 feet in length.
10. Tie each string around the narrowest part of the jar's neck so that all four are equally spaced and so that each knot has two tails of equal length.
11. Knot two adjacent strings together midway up the jar. Repeat for all adjacent string.
12. Complete the previous step again, knotting the strings a bit further up the jar. This will create a diamond shaped pattern of string all around the jar.
13. Gather all of the strings at the bottom of the jar and tie a knot so that the jar can be hung upside-down.
14. With an adult's help, find a sturdy tree branch and hang the feeder.

Take it further!

Now that your butterfly feeder is open for business, start a butterfly tracker! Grab a notebook and a pencil and make observations about the types of butterflies that come to visit your feeder. What time of day do most butterflies visit? How many have visited your feeder? What do the butterflies look like? Can you identify different species?

