

# Butterfly Buddies

Express Children's Theater

PK-4

## ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE

*A delightful one-woman show that enlists kids from the audience to help perform an original story about a group of butterflies who come together to save their endangered habitat. An eco-friendly tale about the power of a group to work together toward a shared goal.*

## TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills):

	Theater	Science	Language Arts	Social Studies	The Students Will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate appropriate etiquette during live performances.</li> <li>• Practice listening and speaking.</li> <li>• Practice working together in a group.</li> <li>• Write/tell stories to express ideas and feelings about real or imagined people, events, and ideas.</li> </ul>
<b>K</b>	1, 2, 4, 5	12, 13	1, 6, 8, 11	14, 15	
<b>1</b>	1, 2, 4, 5	12, 13	1, 6, 7, 8, 12	17, 18	
<b>2</b>	1, 2, 4, 5	12, 13	1, 6, 7, 8, 12	15, 17	
<b>3</b>	1, 2, 4, 5	12, 13	1, 6, 7, 8, 12	15, 16	
<b>4</b>	1, 2, 4, 5	12, 13	1, 6, 7, 8, 12	20, 21	

## STAAR (State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness)

Reading Comprehension skills in Grades 3 and 4  
Writing skills in Grade 4

## Academic Vocabulary:

Butterfly	A flying insect with two pairs of large, brightly colored wings that feeds on nectar and helps plants reproduce by transferring pollen from one to the other. Symbols of transformation, hope, and new beginnings.
Caterpillar	Insects with six legs and up to five pairs of stumpy prolegs with little hooks that help them climb plants and move in a wave-like motion. During their life cycle they turn into butterflies or moths.
Chrysalis	A hard case that protects the caterpillar as it changes into a butterfly.
Life cycle	The stages an animal, such as a butterfly, goes through in the course of its lifetime. For example, egg, caterpillar, chrysalis, butterfly.
Metamorphosis	The process of transformation an insect or other animal goes through from a young form, such as an egg, to an adult form in two or more distinct stages.
Migration	Seasonal movement of animals from one location to another. Example: Monarch butterflies travel thousands of miles between breeding grounds in North America and overwintering sites in Mexico and California.

Breeding grounds	Areas where animals, such as butterflies, lay eggs or otherwise produce young.
Cooperation	Working together to reach the same goal.

## CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS:

### ***Before the performance***

- What do you know about butterflies?
- Have you ever seen butterflies in your neighborhood?
- Have you ever seen butterflies in a science museum?
- Have you ever seen images of butterflies migrating?

### ***After the performance:***

- What did you like best about the presentation?
- Write, draw, tell, sing, dance, or act out your favorite part.

### **Language Arts:**

- Draw pictures and write stories, poems, raps, or songs about butterflies or about what butterflies symbolize.
- Read stories about butterflies or their life cycle. Ideas: *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle, *Waiting for Wings (Rise and Shine)* by Lois Ehlert, *Caterpillar to Butterfly* by Laura Marsh, *Where Do Butterflies Go When It Rains?* by Sophronia May, *The Girl Who Drew Butterflies: How Maria Merian's Art Changed Science* by Joyce Sidman.
- Create butterfly puppets and invent skits, stories, or videos. Idea: Fold an index card (any size) in half. On the fold, draw and cut out a “3” shape. Open, color and decorate to create a “butterfly.” Roll a piece of recycled paper on the diagonal and tape to make a paper stick. Tape the butterfly to the stick. Wave the stick to make the butterfly appear to fly.
- Make a collection of words that begin with the letter “B.” Use to make tongue twisters, stories, raps, songs, poems, skits, etc.

### **Math:**

- Invent, draw, and act out math problems about butterflies.
- Estimate and then research how far butterflies travel in their migrations.

**Social Studies:**

- Find out the relationship between the Monarch butterfly migration and the Day of the Dead celebration in Mexico.
- Research, write and draw about the significance of butterflies to different Native American groups.

**Science:**

- Illustrate the lifecycle of a butterfly.
- Research and grow one or more plants that attract butterflies.
- Observe eggs or caterpillars as they change from one form to another.

**Resources:****Butterflies:**

<https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=books+with+facts+about+butterflies&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8>

<https://www.firefliesandmudpies.com/how-to-raise-butterflies/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U8fv6RcecoA>

**Puppets:**

<https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=kids+create+butterfly+puppets&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:e8335a2f,vid:3DFs2on4aGQ,st:0>

**Cultures:**

<https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=native+american+cultures+and+butterflies&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8>

**ABOUT THE ARTIST:**

For over 30 years, Express Children's Theatre has been Houston's largest multicultural theatre company dedicated exclusively to creating and performing work for children and their families in the Greater Houston area. All shows are interactive where kids can participate from their seats. This dynamic allows for great social and emotional learning where children have a voice in the experience and a stake in the outcome. In addition to performing over 200 shows at year at schools, day care centers, museums and hospitals (including 6 annual shows at Miller Outdoor Theatre) they also lead theatre arts workshops from one day to entire semesters. We are proud to have been a member of the Young Audiences roster since 2017. At Express, they don't only provide innovative entertainment, they strive to build self-esteem and promote good choices to help children become more positive participants in their families, schools and society-at-large.