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FUN FOR KIDS

A COOPERATIVE PROJECT OF THE SANTA BARBARA NEWS-PRESS AND THE EDUCATORS' ROUNDTABLE, PUBLISHED MONTHLY TO PROMOTE LEARNING AMONG YOUNG READERS IN NATURAL SCIENCE, HISTORY, TECHNOLOGY AND ART

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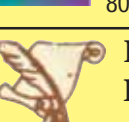
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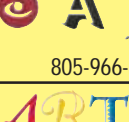
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This Month's Theme: Butterflies

The Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History invites you to view the special exhibition, *Butterflies Alive!*

Butterflies in Santa Barbara

Over 100 species of butterflies live in the Santa Barbara region. There are many places to watch them. When you go out to

look at butterflies, make sure to look for the behaviors described below. Happy butterfly watching!

Flutter Facts! Butterfly Behaviors



Nectaring

Butterflies suck up nectar from flowers.



Image credit: Barbara Daly

Roosting

During bad weather and overnight, butterflies often perch under a leaf with their wings closed, heads pointed downward, and antennae straight ahead.



Image credit: Barbara Daly

Puddling


Butterflies gather at mud puddles to sip water.



Image credit: Sandy Russell

Insect Hunt

How many of these insects can you find in your backyard?

Ant _____ 

Grasshopper _____ 

Bee _____ 

Wasp _____ 

Butterfly _____ 

Beetle _____ 

Dragonfly _____ 

Spider _____ 

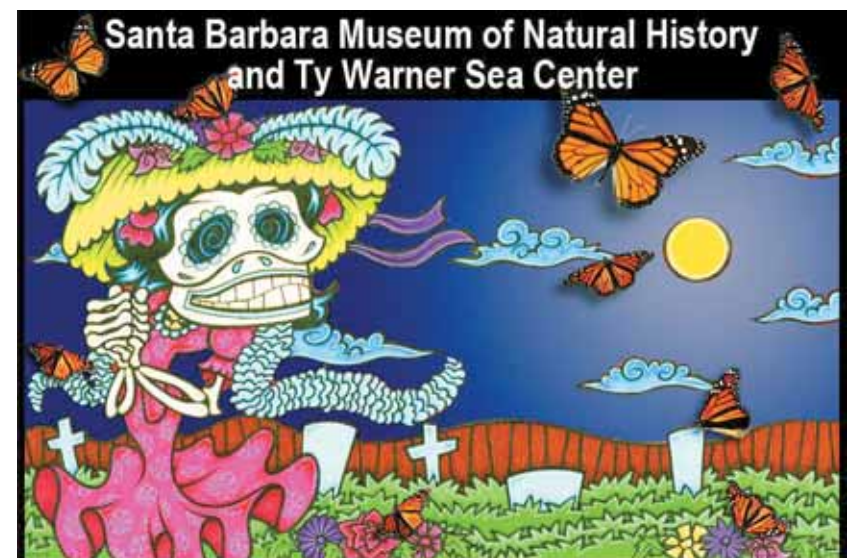
Butterflies Alive! & A Celebration of Souls: Day of the Dead in Southern Mexico

In the Day of the Dead tradition, every autumn Mexicans welcome returning monarch butterflies that have summered up north in the United States and Canada. It is believed that the Monarchs bear the spirits of their beloved departed to be honored during the Day of the Dead.

At the Museum of Natural History, you can learn more about Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) when you see the new exhibit *A Celebration of Souls: Day of the Dead in Southern Mexico*. Also open at the Museum is the *Butterflies Alive!* exhibit where you can see more than 1,000 free-flying butterflies and moths. One of the butterflies you will see in the exhibit is the monarch!

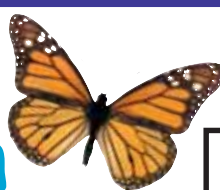


Image credit: "La Catrina" drawn by Heather Crosson at the I Madonnari festival as a rendition of the original piece "La Catrina del Día" by Brandon Madonado.



Plant Your Own Butterfly Garden

You can grow flowers for butterflies. Even a simple window box can be a stopover for traveling butterflies. Find a spot outside your house where there is sun between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Butterflies like milkweed plants the best, but you can try cosmos, marigolds, zinnias, lantana, lavender, and hollyhocks.



Page prepared by staff members of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History.

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