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Chapter 1: Monarch Butterflies are very important

Monarch butterflies are very important, there are many reasons why. One of the reasons are that monarch butterflies help pollinate the world.

Another reason is that they kill dangerous predators. I'm really glad that we have monarch butterflies around to help the world.

Pollinating is important because, when a monarch butterfly goes to a flower to drink the nectar, some of the pollen gets stuck to their body. When they fly to the next flower the pollen drops on the little eggs inside the flower. Then the flower starts to die and fruits and vegetables start to grow. That's where stores and living things including us get food. Also while monarch butterflies are migrating, they pass over some areas where pollination is a problem. They help pollinate those places. Without them plant life may suffer.

Monarch butterflies kill predators by using the chemicals in their body. Some of these predators can be very dangerous to us. Red ants bite, big spiders can also bite. and who knows what the other predators can do.

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Chapter 2: Parts of a Monarch Butterfly

Monarch butterflies have lots of body parts. All of the parts are different. Like all the other butterflies, a monarch has three body parts.

The head is the first part. It holds the proboscis. The proboscis is like a straw, that sucks up the nectar from flowers. It also holds the compound eyes. The compound eyes have lots of vision. The head also holds a pair of antennae. Some moths don't have antennae like monarch butterflies do. Moth's antennae are feathery and monarch butterfly's antennae are straight with a curve at the top.

The second body part is the thorax. It is right in the middle. It holds some of its legs and part of its wings. The abdomen holds the rest.

The abdomen is the last part of the monarch butterfly. It is leathery, so it's harder for animals to bite. Like I said, the abdomen holds the other half of the wings and part of its legs. Since monarch butterflies don't have mouths, they breathe through their spiracles. Spiracles

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are little holes on the abdomen. You can't really see them, because they are very small.

Monarch butterflies have six legs. It has 3 on one side and 3 on another. The wings are attached to the Thorax and the abdomen. The wings need to be warm to fly. If they are frozen they can't fly. That is why they go before winter.

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Chapter 3: The Colors of a Monarch Butterfly

A monarch butterfly has many different colors. The wings are the most colorful part of the butterfly. The wings have six colors. The six colors are orange, black, white, yellow, sunburst, and chocolate. Those colors warn predators not to eat the monarch. The colors tell the predator that the monarch tastes bad.

The color orange takes up most of the space in the wings. It is the middle part of the wing. It kind of traces the wing, but it's smaller. The orange is broken into 2 peices by the black.

The black traces the orange and fills up the blank spaces. The black is thick, but also thin. The black is like the outline of the orange. The head, thorax, and abdomen are also black. The black has some orange and sunburst dots on it.

The color white occurs less. The white is just white dots on the black. It is on top of the black. It could be on the orange, but it's mostly found on the black.

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The color yellow is on the other side of the wings. If you flip a monarch butterfly you will see the yellow part. It takes up 2 of the 4 parts of the monarch butterfly's wing.

Don't forget the sunburst yellow. That is also the middle part of the wings. Some monarchs have orange in the middle and others have sunburst yellow. Sunburst yellow is sort of, like light orange.

Another color is chocolate. Chocolate is like brown. Some monarchs have chocolate instead of black. The orange or sunburst dots go on the chocolate, instead of black.

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Chapter 4: Adaptations of a Monarch Butterfly

Monarch butterflies have lots of structures and each structure has an adaptation.

The adaptations help the monarch butterflies survive the environment.

The proboscis helps the monarch butterfly suck up the nectar from flowers, so it can drink it. Since they don't have mouths, they use the proboscis to suck up the nectar from a flower and drink it.

Migrating is another adaptation a monarch has. Migrating is an adaptation because the monarchs migrate to stay away from the cold winter. If they didn't migrate they would be freezing and won't be able to survive the cold. So that is why migrating is an adaptation. It helps the monarch butterfly stay warm and not frozen.

The wings are an adaptation too because the wings help it fly. Without the wings the monarch wouldn't be able to fly. In fact they wouldn't be called a butterfly anymore. The

Another adaptation is the chemicals inside

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the monarch butterfly's body. The chemicals make the monarch taste bad. So when a predator tries to bite the monarch, it will spit it out. If the predator is lucky, it will survive, but it is possible that the predators could die.

Another adaptation is a leathery abdomen. It is so leathery that when a predator tries to bite it, the predator can't rip it apart. The abdomen is hard for the predator to bite.

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Chapter 5: Migrating to Mexico

Monarch butterflies have to fly a long journey to Mexico. That is where they migrate. Mexico is warmer than New York. They get a head start in fall because it takes them a long time to get to Mexico. They fly in groups, so they don't get lost.

Monarch butterflies migrate in fall and spring in Mexico. Their journey to Mexico begins in September. By November they reach Texas. They take a rest because they still have a long way to go. When their rest is over, they start flying again. In early December they reach Mexico. They have traveled for more than 2,000 miles.

When they are in Mexico, hundreds or thousands of monarchs hang on trees and go to sleep. They cover themselves with their wings. They use it as a blanket. They hibernate, take a deep sleep during the cold weather, in forests in Mexico.

There are many reasons why monarch butterflies migrate to Mexico. They migrate

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to Mexico because it gets so cold at where they live. If they live in the cold and don't migrate, their wings will get frozen and they can't fly. The monarchs can't stand heavy snowfalls, or lack of plants in the winter, so they move to the southern part of the united states.