



NATURE DETECTIVES



Hello Nature Detectives - are you ready to explore?

Today, let's discover butterflies and moths. Remember to look closely with your eyes and be gentle with your hands. Enjoy!

Butterflies & Moths:

Begin your detective work by figuring out where your adventures will take you.

Tip: butterflies and moths are ectothermic (cold-blooded) and they need to absorb heat to warm up and fly. Where would they find heat in the summer? Out in the sun!



Visit **sunny** spots like the **Pond Walk** for butterflies since they are daytime active.



Visit **shady** spots like **Azalea Hill** for moths - they seek dark spots & hide in leaf litter.

LOOK for butterflies and moths that are the following colors and sizes:

Orange	Black	White	Yellow	Blue	Brown	small	BIG
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Butterflies and moths could be close-by but without wings. You might find their caterpillars munching on leaves in the garden.


Examine plant leaves for caterpillar clues: missing leaves, holes on the edges of leaves, and frass (caterpillar poop).

? *Can you name the 4 stages in a butterfly's life cycle?*

? *Are they the same 4 stages as a moth's life cycle? (Hint - only moths make cocoons)*

What do adult butterflies and moths eat? Liquids like flower nectar or from rotting fruit. They absorb liquids with their proboscis which acts like a sponge/straw combo.

LOOK for butterflies and moths visiting  (clearwing moths are active in daytime).

Winged wonders - Butterflies and moths have 4 wings: 2 top wings called forewings and 2 bottom wings called hindwings. Pretend your arms and legs are wings! 

? *What was your favorite part about discovering butterflies and moths today?*

 *Find something cool? Share your detective skills with us: @JAGardens, #JenkinsArboretum*