

THEME: Butterflies

There are so many lovely butterflies flying about at this time of year that the Squirrels will love to make one of their own to take home!

An introductory activity can be used as the Squirrels arrive at the meeting place – colouring or simple puzzles can keep children occupied until all the Drey arrives or use a ‘joining-in’ style game, such as ‘The farmer wants a wife’ or a circle format ball game.

Add snack time where necessary!

TIME (mins)	ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT
5	Welcome, Register, Opening Ceremony, Introduction to Programme	
10	<p>GAME: Caterpillar, Cocoon, Butterfly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>A Leader calls out ‘caterpillar’, ‘cocoon’ or ‘butterfly’ at random and the Squirrels act out the appropriate action</i> ○ <i>‘Caterpillar’ – they could crawl around slowly pretending to eat leaves</i> ○ <i>‘Cocoon’ – they might lie very still or curl up</i> ○ <i>‘Butterfly’ – they can run or dance around the room waving their arms like wings and feeding from pretend flowers!</i> ○ <i>Allow the Squirrels to think about what actions each stage of the butterfly’s life cycle might do and make them their own as this develops their imagination!</i> 	None
10	<p>STORY: Choose a butterfly themed story or one which highlights the various stages of its development!</p> <p>‘The Butterfly’ by Anna Milbourne and Cathy Shimmen published by Usborne ISBN 9 7807 460 6238 8 has delightful illustrations and a simplified version of the life cycle of a butterfly but could be a little factual for Squirrel age.</p> <p>‘The Crunching Munching Caterpillar’ by Sheridan Cain and Jack Tickle published by Little Tiger Press ISBN 1 85430 641 3, caterpillar longs to be able to fly but all he can do is crunch and munch his way through a blackberry bush until he meets a butterfly with a special secret!</p>	Storybook
10	<p>GAME: Cosy Cocoons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Divide the Drey into pairs and give each pair a cheap toilet roll</i> ○ <i>On the word ‘go’ one child starts to wrap the other in toilet roll to make a cocoon, on ‘stop’ the child stops wrapping</i> ○ <i>Then a Leader shouts ‘cocoon’ and the wrapped children lie on the floor and go to sleep (count to 10 or more if wished!)</i> ○ <i>On the call of ‘butterfly’ they all try to unwrap themselves and fly round the hall</i> ○ <i>Repeat for the other partner in each pair</i> ○ <i>Make sure the Squirrels tidy the toilet roll away into rubbish bags after the game!</i> 	Cheap toilet rolls Rubbish bags



10	<p>CRAFT: Beautiful Butterflies Make these pretty butterflies adapted from an idea on the website www.familyfun.go.com</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pre-cut simple butterfly shapes from coloured tissue paper ○ Allow the Squirrels to choose several sheets of tissue ○ These sheets are placed on top of each other and the pipe cleaner is folded in half over the wings (one half on top of the tissue and the other underneath) forming the body ○ Gather the tissue a little and twist the pipe cleaner to secure the wings in place, leaving ends to make antennae ○ The Squirrels can stick on spots and shapes to make colourful decorations on their butterfly's wings ○ Curl the tips of the pipe cleaners around fingers to make the ends of the butterfly's antennae ○ Tie one end of the thread to the pipe cleaner body so that the butterfly can fly or be hung up to hover! 	<p>Coloured tissue paper (10cm squares cut into butterfly shapes) Long pipe cleaners (approx. 20cms) Sticky spots, shapes Thread</p>
10	<p>GAME: Coloured Flowers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Attach simple flower shapes around the meeting place, put some up high, some down low and some on the ground thus encouraging the Squirrels to stretch and bend</i> ○ <i>The Squirrels pretend to be butterflies flying around trying to collect nectar from different coloured flowers</i> ○ <i>A Leader calls out a sequence of colours and the Squirrels have to fly to touch each flower in order – 'red, blue, yellow' and so on!</i> 	<p>Simple flower shapes cut from different coloured paper Blotack</p>
5	Closing, Home	

