Wellbeing in the Woods ONLINE

Sustainable Life Birmingham

Protect a Caterpillar

The edges of woodlands often have long grass that is perfect for caterpillars and butterflies. If you see a caterpillar here's what you can do to raise your own butterfly and get the kids involved in the learning experience too.

SAFETY

Some caterpillars can irritate your skin. Don't pick it up directly, use a leaf or branch to do so.

HOW TO DO IT

Take the caterpillar you have found and place them in a clean jar with some soil in the bottom.

Put a few drops of water in the soil to keep the air moist enough.

Fill the jar with a few leaves from the plant you found the caterpillar on.

Ensure there is at least one sturdy stick in the jar propped up so the caterpillar can form a Chrysalis on it.

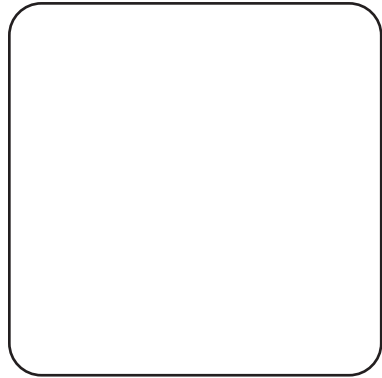Cover the jar with a light cloth like a cheesecloth/muslin and secure it with an elastic band.

Wait!

When the butterfly or moth emerges, do not remove it right away as the wings will be soft still. If they emerge at night, wait until morning to let them go when it's warmed up a bit.

Sometimes a butterfly will sit on your finger a little while before it flies away. Do not rush it! It will fly when it's ready!

You should always release the butterfly where you found it.

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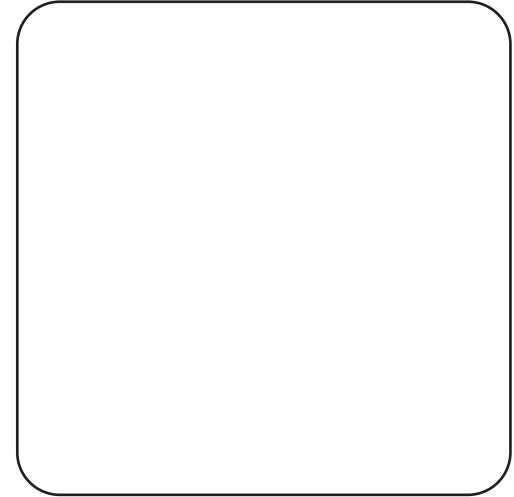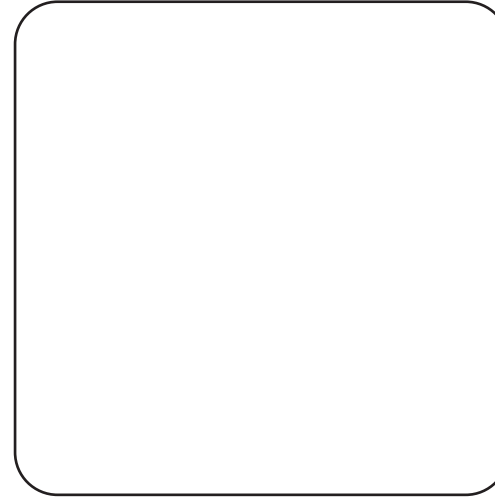This is my Caterpillar

His/Her name is:

I think they will turn into a:

My Caterpillar likes to eat:

My Caterpillar became a coccoon | chrysalis on:

My Caterpillar became a butterfly | moth on:

This is the cocoon | chrysalis:

This is my butterfly | moth!

I found them here:

It took ⬜ days to change (This is called metamorphosis!)

Can you put the images below in the right order?