

‘BUTTERFLY ART’ SESSION - Bilborough Art Festival - Summer 2026		
Example butterfly	Teacher made example	
Image sheets – please print these out from PDF files These will be emailed to you.	1) Butterfly example images PDF 2) Butterfly patterns grid PDF 3) Butterfly outline - print onto A4 card if possible - ideally 220gsm+ PDF	
art materials		
paper plates (2 per butterfly)	scissors	
ready mix paint (don’t add water) or watercolour paints/inks	pencil	
paint brushes -medium for plate painting/small for detail	pipe cleaners (1 per butterfly)	
wax crayons/ oil pastels/ colour pencils/pens	Double sided tape (if available, to help stick down butterfly)	
(black fine line pen)	colour paper (for collaging)	
Key Learning.		
Activity 1) Drawing from observation – A4 Butterfly Pattern Grid		
- Looking closely at butterfly wing patterns and noticing different shapes & textures - Practise using line to draw patterns using the grid worksheet - Notice circular shapes designed to look like animal eyes to scare predators - Notice wings that look like leaves or bark - camouflage		
Key Vocabulary:	- line - shape - pattern - texture - 3D	- hot & cold colours - contrasting colours - collage - layers
Activity 2) Creating a colourful 3D butterfly using mixed media techniques including: painting/drawing/collage/construction		
- Developing drawing & design skills by creating a butterfly inspired pattern - Developing an understanding of symmetry and natural forms - Developing an understanding of the visual effects of using contrasting colours - Developing drawing and painting skills - Developing construction and collage skills by assembling butterfly components		
STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS:		
1) paint 2 paper plates in contrasting/bold colours using paint - e.g. a yellow/blue, red/green, orange, purple, black/white - (don’t add extra water if using ready mix paint) 2) while plates dry, on your chosen butterfly shape, draw patterns on the wings in pencil aim for- ‘symmetry’ on both sides (you can go over in black pen at the end) 3) add colour to the butterfly wing patterns using pencil, pastels (or paint) 4) add extra colour by cutting out circle shapes from colour paper and collaging onto butterfly 5) cut out finished butterfly (if painted, let it dry before cutting out) 6) cut a wavy /zig zag line around one painted plate to look like flower petals 7) use a pipe cleaner bent into a ‘U’ shape to create the antennae 8) stick the butterfly onto the plate with the antennae under the head of the butterfly using glue (the tips of wings can be floating over the edge for a 3D effect) 9) Stick your colour plate with butterfly onto second paper plate Try using a contrasting colour, for example: hot & cold colours - yellow & blue, red & green		