

Project Butterfly WINGS

Winning
Investigative
Network for
Great
Science

...invites outdoor exploration
...encourages curiosity

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Backyard jaunts...hikes through the woods... even passing glimpses of landscaped parking lots... will never be the same after youth "open their eyes" to the outdoors and its winged treasures...butterflies.

In Project Butterfly WINGS, 4-H youth ages nine to 13 explore the outdoors through guided inquiry, learn to identify the butterfly families and common butterflies, and contribute to science.



"I really like being able to tell the butterflies apart."



Be a Citizen Scientist

Conduct butterfly surveys and enter the results on the interactive WINGS website. Data are available for professional scientists and the public to view. Volunteer citizen scientists help researchers answer questions about scientific issues. WINGS is part of a long-term investigation of the trends in populations and distribution of common butterflies.

Project Butterfly WINGS: Winning Investigative Network for Great Science

Science Inquiry Skills and 4-H Life Skills

A youth Project Guide, Leader and Helper Guide, and the interactive WINGS website are the basis of the WINGS project. The Project Guide has a wide range of engaging activities. Youth explore the outdoors through their senses, play butterfly detective, create site maps of their favorite butterfly-watching places, and ultimately embark on a "Question Quest" -- a discovery project youth design based on what interests them about butterflies.

Through these activities, youth learn the steps in the science inquiry process, and become critical thinkers and decision makers. In addition to science content and skills, youth employ a number of 4-H life skills in WINGS.

self-confidence · problem-solving · learning to learn · ethics · communication

Flexibility

4-H youth can participate in a number of ways. WINGS is designed for informal education settings. 4-H clubs, after-school programs, camps, and home-schooled children participate in WINGS. The flexible program accommodates youth with limited time, resources and different skill levels. No previous knowledge of butterflies is required of leaders and youth.



4-H Connection

WINGS participants must be part of a 4-H club or group. 4-H leaders register youth to use the WINGS website so they can enter their butterfly monitoring data. Instructions for monitoring are in the WINGS Project Guide.



Contact us at:
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"You actually got to learn something while you were having fun."

