Hall Place Teachers Notes
Mr Newman's Beautiful Butterflies

Suitable for ages and abilities from Reception to KS2.

Learn all about the famous 20th century local butterfly expert Mr Newman using archive photographs and our museum collection. Did you know he had a butterfly farm in Bexley?

Students will study butterfly specimens from the Education Service's handling collection and the Bexley Museum Collection throughout the session to really understand the anatomy, characteristics and life cycles of butterflies and moths.

Your class will undertake their own scientific investigation as a lepidopterist and learn about butterfly classification, adaptation, life cycles and anatomy with a little maths work on symmetry too (depending on the age and ability).

As part of this, a member of your class will be dressed up as a human butterfly – wearing extra legs, a huge bottom, wings, antenna, glasses and a surprise replica tongue. This is a fabulous fun way to look at anatomy. All the class will get to see how an insect sees through replica 'insect eyes'.

The session will finish with the opportunity for students to make their own butterfly specimen display out of paper to finish at school. This session requires teachers to print out the Students On-site Activity Sheet and the Butterfly Sheet that accompanies the sessions teaching for their class to use.

This session requires teachers to print out the Students On-site Activity Sheet that accompanies the session's teaching for their class to use. Please see the list opposite for in depth teachers notes on the session and the session activity sheets available. Please choose the right sheets for your class's age and abilities and bring them with you for use during the session. **Each student will need a copy of the appropriate On-site Activity Sheet, plus a copy of the colouring sheet**. You will find this sheet on the Hall Place education resources webpage, and will need to print off one for each child in your class.
https://www.hallplace.org.uk/taught-sessions/

If the weather is good, we can provide laminated copies of butterfly identification sheets for you to use in the gardens at Hall Place and where the best places are to find them. How many can you see?

WINGS AND THINGS: You could team the Mr Newman's Beautiful Butterflies session with an hour's visit to Jambs Owls Experience to make a day of it. See the Hall Place website for more details.

Learning outcomes

- The key characteristics of butterflies and moths.

- The life cycles of butterflies & moths.
- Engage with the museum collection to see the detail of different butterflies and moths.
- Most living things live in habitats to which they are suited – adaptation, colouration etc.
- Recognise that living things can be grouped together according to shared characteristics.
- Differentiate between living butterflies and dead ones from the museum collection.
- Vocabulary – lepidopterist, characteristics, adaptation, classification, wing, abdomen, thorax, antenna, segments, proboscis, compound eyes, chrysalis, cocoon, symmetrical, egg, caterpillar, larvae, pupa, Venn diagram, habitat, environment, living, dead, camouflage, attraction, mimicking,
- To label the basic parts of a butterfly's body.
- To understand the similarities & differences between butterflies & moths.

Activities

- Studying the museum collection of butterflies/moths – developing observational and comprehension skills, answering questions about the collection specimens.
- Dressing one member of the class up to illustrate the shared characteristics of a butterfly, where on the body they are, what they do and the similarities and differences between humans and butterflies.
- Labelling a butterfly with the key shared characteristics, using the museum collection & a Venn diagram to understand the similarities & differences between butterflies & moths.
- Completing butterfly & moth templates with colour & patterning to show an understanding of symmetry, camouflage, attraction, mimicking.

Evaluation

- Interaction with objects and specimens to show understanding of what they are and what they were used for.
- Identifying the anatomy of specimens and the visual differences between butterflies and moths.
- Discussion and questions between the session leader and members of the group. Students answering questions to check their comprehension.
- Completing the session activity sheet.
- Using and building upon the knowledge obtained in the taught session to help them with creating the colour and patterns of their own butterflies.

Pre & post visit activities

We recommend on going for a butterfly hunt yourselves to see how many you can spot. There are several free ID sheets available on the web including - Big Butterfly Count and Butterfly Conservation. We have available at Hall Place for you to use as part of your visit.

Could a visit to Jambs Owls Experience and looking at a different animal be beneficial to you? Visit the bottom of the taught session & Jambs Owls pages on the on the Hall Place website to find out more.