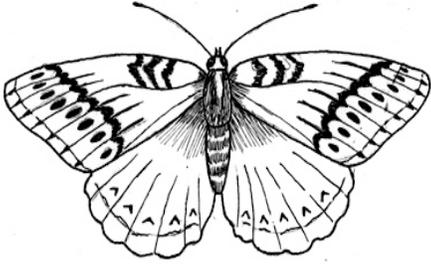


The Old Naturalist-Butterflies



Great Spangled Fritillary

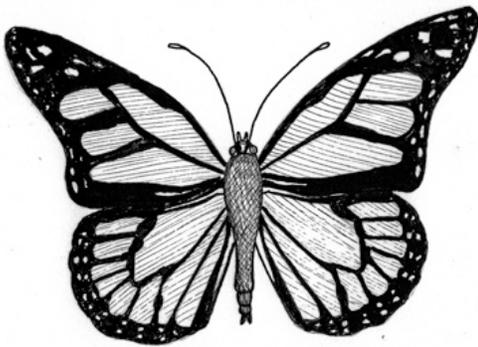
As a child, studying butterflies helped me realize that I was a naturalist. I was eight years old, and my 3rd grade teacher was Mrs. Richie. She was an avid butterfly collector and tried to get the whole class hooked on catching and preserving butterflies in cases. I spent hours running around with a butterfly net trying to catch the many species that inhabited my neighborhood. I grew up in Southern California and we had a number of beautiful species: the dogface, orange-tip butterflies were a few that I

remember. I had a butterfly book, and at night I wrote up reports on different species. There was no extra credit from Mrs. Richie, I was simply obsessed with butterflies.

The only horrible thing about my time with Mrs. Richie is that the butterflies had to be killed, and then mounted on a board and put in a case. I would never want my students to do that today. A camera is a great way to capture your memories of a butterfly. Butterflies can be skittish, so you will need a zoom lens on your camera. Approach slowly, take a few pictures from afar, and then take another step closer. Connect with the beauty of the butterfly as you get closer with each step. Slow down more, and try to get into a zone that matches the butterfly's energy. Trust me, if a butterfly allows you to get close to it, you'll feel blessed and changed by the experience.



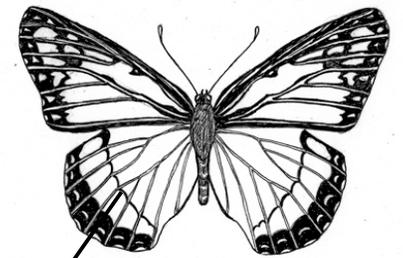
Anglewing



Monarch

Most students who see an orange butterfly call it a **monarch**, because it is the only butterfly they have ever heard of. The monarch is the state of butterfly of Minnesota. It is a large (4") butterfly and common in the Upper Midwest. They are the only butterfly to migrate, traveling from the Upper Midwest and Eastern United States to the Sierra Madre Mountains in Central Mexico, a distance of over 1700 miles.

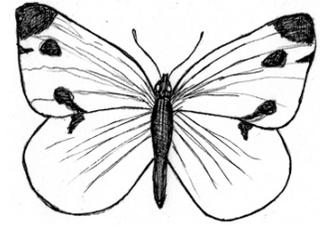
The **viceroy** is often confused with the monarch. A viceroy can be distinguished from a monarch because it is smaller (3") and has an extra black line across its lower wing. It was originally believed that the viceroy "mimics" or looks like a monarch because the monarch was more poisonous to predators and gave some protection to the viceroy. However, recent studies have shown that both the monarch and the viceroy have an equal amount of toxicity to predators.



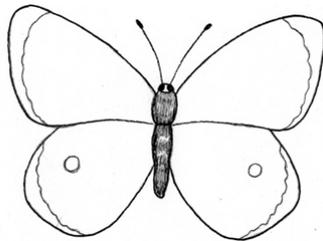
Viceroy

Extra
line

The **cabbage butterfly** is a common white butterfly seen in the backyard. They are considered pests by gardeners because the larvae eat cabbage, broccoli, and other members of the cabbage family.



Cabbage



Sulphur

Sulphur butterflies tend to increase throughout the summer, and peak in September. Thousands of these yellow butterflies may be seen in clover and alfalfa fields.

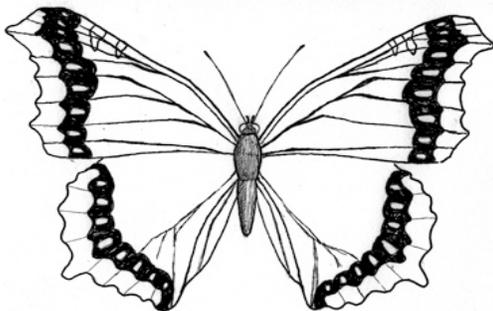
Swallowtail butterflies are the largest summer butterflies. They have two tails projecting from the rear of their body. The purpose of these tails is to fool bird predators into grabbing the tails rather than the main part of its body, allowing them to survive another day. Tiger swallowtails may also be seen gathering around a damp place or puddle. This behavior is known as “puddling”.



Tiger Swallowtail

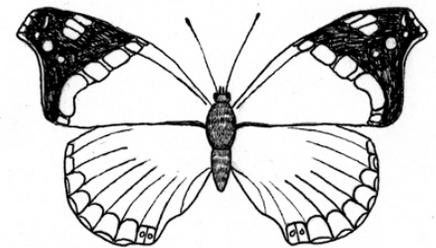
The **great spangled fritillary** (picture on previous page) is an orangish-brown butterfly that can be confused with a monarch. They prefer moist, open fields and gardens, feeding on black-eyed susan flowers, purple coneflower, milkweed and other prairie flowers.

Anglewing butterflies (picture on previous page) are named for their jagged wing edges. They are found in open areas of forests. When their wings are closed, they look like the bark of a tree, and when they are disturbed, they will perch on a trunk.



Mourning Cloak

Most butterflies do not survive harsh winters as adults. But the **anglewing, red admiral, and mourning cloak butterflies** hibernate as adults, and remain all winter under the loose bark of trees and in hollow logs. In early spring, they use their dark wings as solar collectors and raise their body temperature well above the air temperature. This allows them to fly on chilly spring days, feeding on the nectar of spring wildflowers, and maple sap.

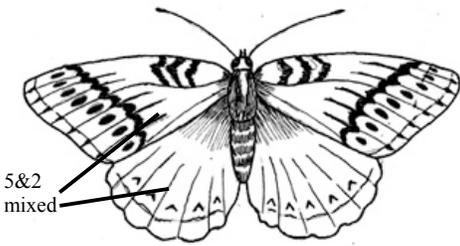


Red Admiral

Possible points: one point for coloring the butterflies on next page; up to three point if you take photos of butterflies; up to nine points for each butterfly identified. **Total possible points: 13** **Total points for you:** _____

Neighborhood Butterflies

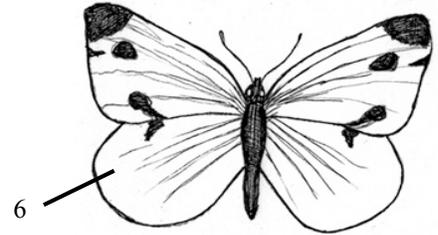
What to do next: Color the butterflies using the color code below, and throughout the summer, identify butterflies that you see in your neighborhood. Keep track of what you see and record your points on the bottom of the page.



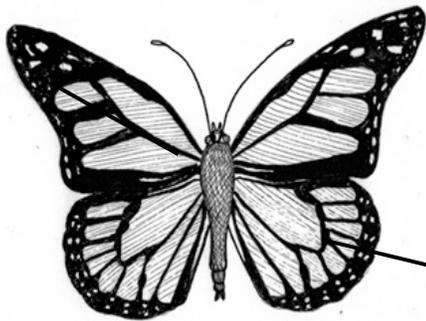
Great Spangled Fritillary



Anglewing



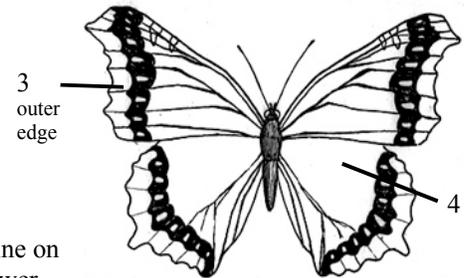
Cabbage



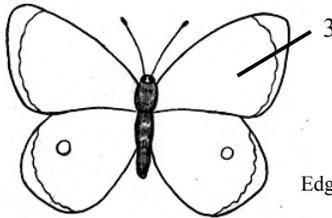
Monarch



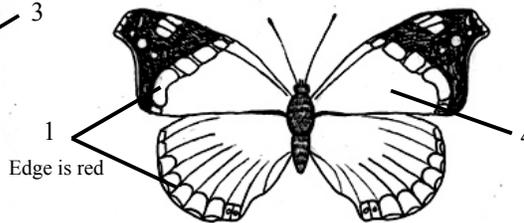
Viceroy
(Smaller than Monarch)



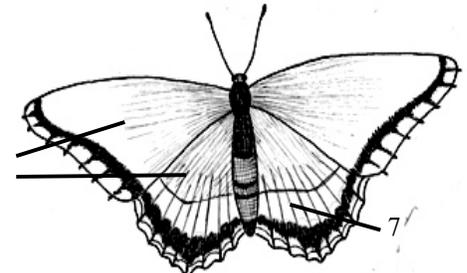
Mourning Cloak



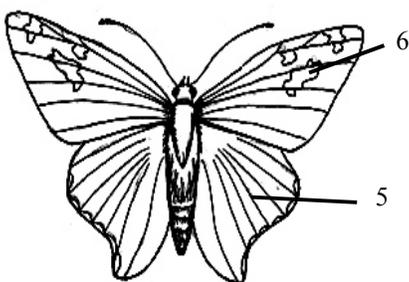
Sulphur



Red Admiral
(Can be very common)



Red Spotted Purple
(Mid July or later)



Silver Spotted Skipper
(The largest skipper, most skippers are very small.)



Tiger Swallowtail

Color Code

1. Red
2. Orange
3. Yellow
4. Black
5. Brown
6. White
7. Blue