

# Colorful Coffee Filter Butterflies

## MATERIALS

- 2 white coffee filters
- Markers
- Paper plate or newspaper for the mess
- 1 pipe cleaner
- (Optional) foam brush
- (Optional) string or yarn



## STEPS

1. Collect all materials.

**\*Helpful note:** It works best if you limit it to 3-4 colors.



2. Flatten coffee filter and draw random designs. Think of the color wheel when you do this – what colors do you want to blend together? Your designs don't need to be fancy because the water will blend it.



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3. Mist the filter with water from a spray bottle. Set aside to dry and repeat steps 2 & 3 with the second filter.



4. Set aside the second filter to dry.

**\*Waiting...** While these are drying, go outside and try to find a butterfly, read a book from the suggested reading, or move like a butterfly!



5. Fan fold the two coffee filters and stack them on each other. Look at the photo to assist you.



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6. Fold the middle in half – you might need to pinch it a bit.

**\*Helpful Note:** Keep it pinched as best as you can for the following steps. The photos doesn't show it pinched, but it should be.



7. Fold pipe cleaner in half and place coffee filters one-third from its base.



8. Twist the bottom loop. Twist once above the folded coffee filters, so the pipe cleaner holds them tightly.



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9. Bring the stem slightly out to create the butterfly head. Twist the antennae as tight as you wish – or leave them straight! Open and fluff out the wings of the butterfly. It is ready to explore your home and garden!



*Hello!*

*Don't forget to give me a name!  
I would like a friend to fly  
around with – do you have a  
couple more coffee filters to  
create another butterfly?*

## Coffee Filter Colorful Butterfly

### Storytime

Pair the craft with one of these books:

- *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle
- *Elmer and Butterfly* by Elmer McKee
- *A Butterfly is Patient* by Dianna Hutts Aston
- *Little Butterfly* by Laura Logan (Wordless book)
- *Butterfly Park* by Elly McKay

### Creative Writing

Write a story about the butterfly you created. Use your imagination or use one of the books above for inspiration. What is the name of your butterfly? Where will your story take place? Are there other characters in the story? What will happen at the beginning, middle, and end?

### Let's Move!

Try pairing the craft and reading with this movement activity.

#### Butterfly Pose

Movement 1:

1. Sit on the floor
2. Bring the bottoms of your feet together, and your fingers up by your head
3. Gently bounce your knees to flap your butterfly wings, and move your fingers to wiggle your butterfly antennae
4. Slowly bring your hands to your lap and rest

Movement 2:

1. Lie on the floor, legs extended out in front of you
2. Bring the bottoms of your feet together with your knees out to the side (making a diamond shape with the legs). Don't force your knees down, let them drop naturally.
3. Stretch your arms back above your head and let your hand grab the opposite elbow
4. Breathe slowly in this position for 5-10 breaths
5. Release the hands, place the bottoms of your feet back on the floor and roll on your side to relax.