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Insect Team Leaders:

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KIDBLITZ ACTIVITIES- FISH TEAM *DRAFT 3/27/09*

I SPY BUTTERFLIES!

GOAL: Learn to recognize and name the most common species along the trails in the park

MATERIALS:

- Butterfly tent
- Butterflies
- Butterfly guides, wheels
- Butterfly nets
- Pots of plants for butterfly gardening: milkweed, lantana, verbena, dill/anise/parsley, incense passionvine

RESOURCE PEOPLE:

Lourdes Hasson, Jane Packard

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Net butterflies the day before and store them in a cool location.
2. Set up the butterfly tent and the flower pots inside.
3. Instruct kids to
 - a. Wait to enter the tent when there are more than 3 kids
 - b. Be patient and let the butterfly come to you.
 - c. Hold out your hand with a dab of sugar water or flowers in a vase
 - d. Count how many individual butterflies you see
 - e. Count how many different species you see
 - f. Name the species you know, and learn one new species
 - g. Place the sticker on the butterfly guide, next to the species you saw OR turn the wheel to the new species whose name you learned
 - h. talk about how the butterflies use each plant, and what you would want to plant to attract butterflies to your garden
4. Take the butterfly guide (or Wheel) to the insect booth, for a stamp on your passport

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- Butterflies lay eggs on: passion vine (gulf fritillary), milkweed (monarch), dill/parsley/anise (swallowtails)
- Butterflies drink nectar from: lantana, verbena