



# Castlecomer Discovery Park

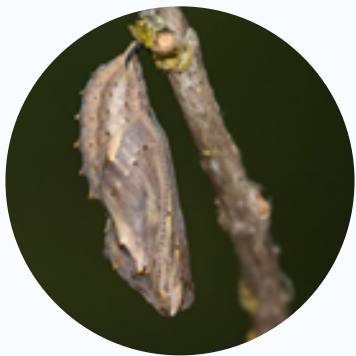
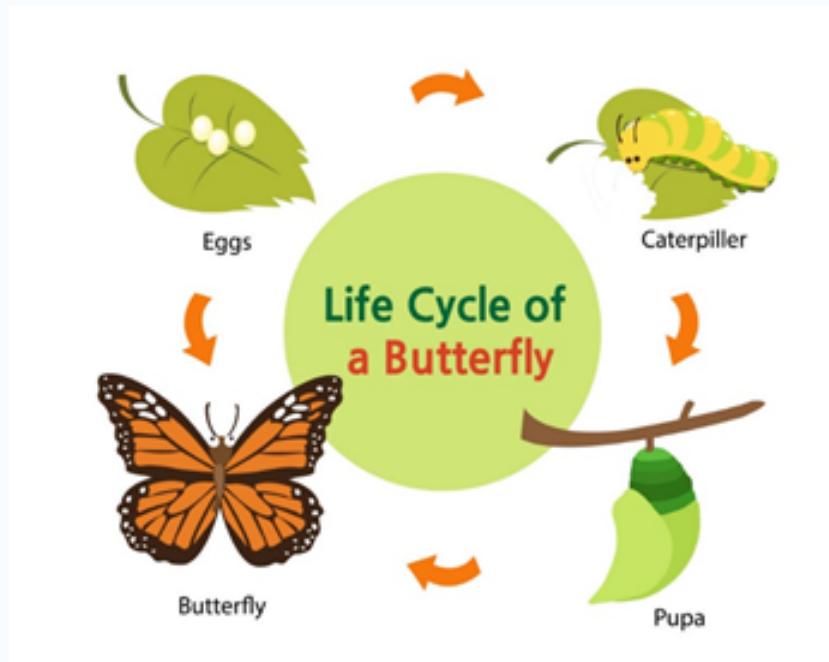
Yours to enjoy

## FUN WAYS TO LEARN AT HOME SHEET 2 - COCOONING AND BUTTERFLIES



You might have heard this word on the news recently.

Someone you know might even be cocooning for a little while to stay safe and protected. Moths, some butterflies, earthworms, and leeches make cocoons as part of their life cycle. A cocoon (or chrysalis) is a covering or case made by some insects to protect themselves or their young as they develop into adults.



Look how fantastic cocoons  
are –  
made of silk, twigs and  
leaves!



## BUTTERFLIES & COCOONING

### CRAFT A COCOON

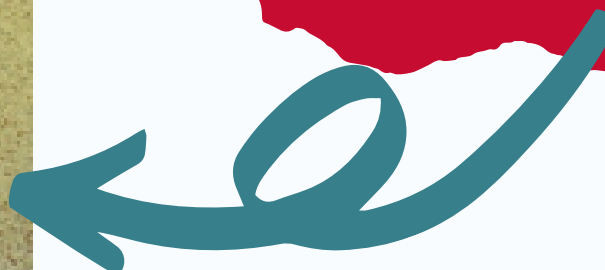
- Use an empty toilet paper roll and decorate the roll to look like a cocoon – use cotton wool, paper, leaves etc.
- Draw, colour and cut out a butterfly and glue it to the end of a stick.
- You might even create some eggs, a leaf and a caterpillar to complete the life cycle!
- Slide the butterfly in and out of the tube and explain the life cycle of your butterfly to a sibling/guardian.



### P.E - COCOON YOURSELF

Imagine you are a caterpillar. Wiggle, wriggle and wave along the floor!

Ask a sibling or guardian to wrap you round and round and round with a roll of toilet paper to create your very own cocoon space. Be sure to leave your face uncovered. Gently begin to stretch and merge from your cocoon as a beautiful butterfly or moth! You're now free, show us how you can fly!





# Castlecomer Discovery Park

Yours to enjoy

## BUTTERFLIES & COCOONING

### SCIENCE / GEOGRAPHY:

Explore your garden to see if you can discover any cocoons – popular places include on twigs, trees and sometimes in sheds. Be sure not to disturb it as the creatures inside are working hard to grow and develop.


#### Gaeilge:

cocún (cocoon),  
féileacán (butterfly),  
leamhan (moth),  
bolb (caterpillar),  
nádúr (nature)


### BUTTERFLY MATHS!

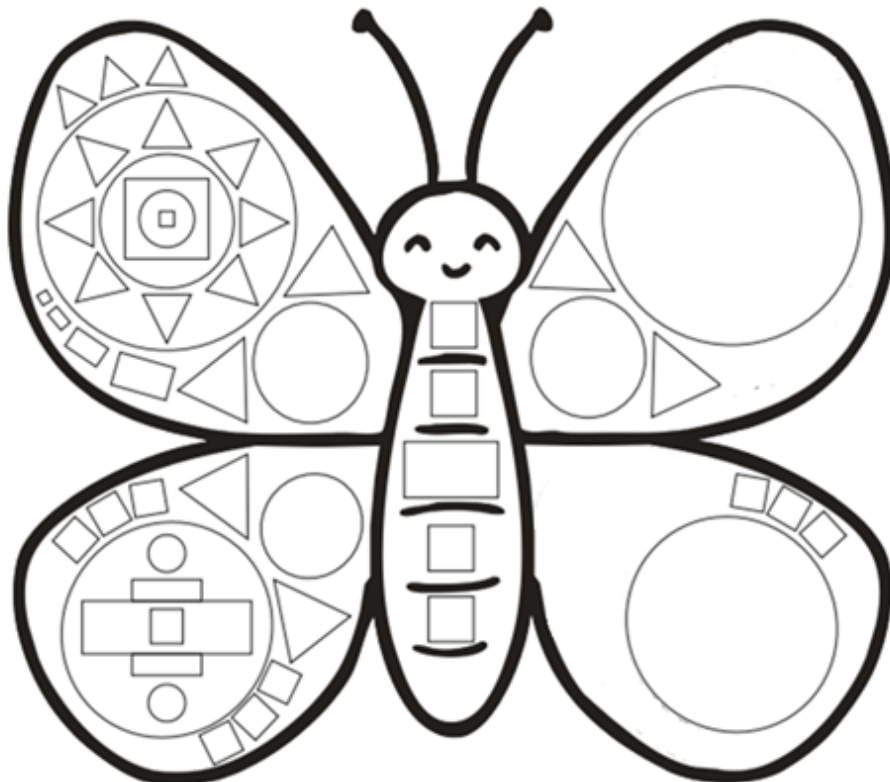
Symmetry is when two parts of a whole are identical. If you can draw a line through it and each side looks the same, then it is symmetrical! Butterflies (and moths) display beautiful symmetry in their wing patterns. Art: Print or draw this butterfly and complete the other half of its wing pattern. Colour the different shapes in the colours stated.

Colour  purple

Colour  pink

Colour  yellow

Colour  blue





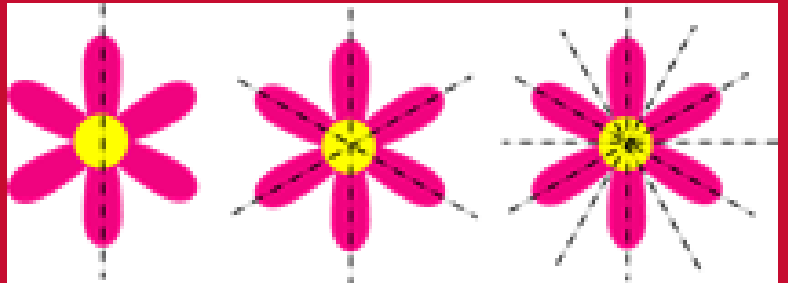
Castlecomer  
Discovery Park  
Yours to enjoy

## BUTTERFLIES & COCOONING

### MATHS CHALLENGE

- Examine your completed butterfly above (page 3) and answer the questions below:
- i. What is the smallest shape on the butterfly's wings?
- ii. How many triangles can you count on the butterfly?
- iii. How many circles and squares can you count on one side of the butterfly?
- iv. A butterfly beats its wings 5 times per second! Flying for 15 seconds, how many times would its wings beat?
- v. 2D shapes are connected to 3D objects – pair them up

Square	Cuboid
Circle	Pyramid
Triangle	Cube
Rectangle	Sphere



Nature is full of symmetry! Explore your garden (or even your toy-box!), record examples of symmetry by making a list with a drawing for each one.

Science: Did you know  
Ireland has approx. 1,350 moth  
species and 37 butterfly species?

Next time you are walking in Castlecomer Discovery  
Park, keep an eye out - they love our trees, plants and  
flowers; especially the oak, bramble, common dog-  
violet and primrose.

Do you know what these look like?

