

# Painted Butterfly Mobile Lesson Plan



## Overview

This lesson plan was developed by members of the Bainbridge Island Museum of Art's (BIMA) Curriculum Collaborative, generously funded by an Arts in Education Partnership grant from ArtsWA, the Washington State Arts Commission.

The Curriculum Collaborative paired Kitsap County elementary school educators with BIMA teaching artists to develop arts-integrated lesson plans that augment learning potential embedded in existing Art in Action videos.

The teaching artists, classroom teachers and lesson plans foreground equity, with an emphasis on one or more of the following areas: Spanish dual-language, special education, social emotional learning (SEL), and/or arts integrated curriculum development.

BIMA is grateful to the following Curriculum Collaborative members for their dedication to high quality experiential education for young learners in Kitsap County and beyond.

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The Bainbridge Island Museum of Art acknowledges that the land on which we gather is within the aboriginal territory of the suq'wábš "People of Clear Salt Water" (Suquamish People). Expert fishers, canoe builders, and basket weavers, the suq'wábš live in harmony with the lands and waterways along Washington's Central Salish Sea as they have for thousands of years. Here the suq'wábš live and protect the land and waters of their ancestors for future generations as promised by the Point Elliot Treaty of 1855.

We pay respects to their elders past and present.

# Painted Lady Butterfly Mobile Lesson Plan

Students will create a hanging mobile depicting the life cycle of the Painted Lady Butterfly native to Washington State. Over three lessons, students will create a mobile using various materials and sources of artistic inspiration and will gain understanding of butterfly life cycles.

## Standards

### Arts

This lesson plan addresses the following Washington State Arts Learning Standards. [For more information or for grade-level specific performance standards, refer to Washington State Learning Standards: The Arts Learning Standards: Visual Arts by Grade Level \(2017\).](#)

Creating	Organize and develop artistic ideas and work (Anchor Standard 2) Performance Standard (VA:Cr 2.3.2) – a) Repurpose Objects to make something new  Refine and complete artistic work (Anchor Standard 3)
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### Science

Next Generation Science Standard Performance Expectation <b>3-LS1-1:</b> <a href="#">Science Standard 3-LS1-1</a>	Develop models to describe that organisms have unique and diverse life cycles, but all have in common birth, growth, reproduction, and death.
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# Painted Butterfly Mobile

## Supplies

- [BIMA Art In Action video](#)
- Student science journals
- A fairly straight, sturdy branch, stick, or dowel
- Yarn
- Construction Paper
- Markers/Colored Pencils
- Glue (Elmers, glue stick)
- Stapler
- Hole punch
- Optional – For other hanging pieces: Variety of items that are either found or created like fresh greens, colored paper, painted artwork
- Space to hang student mobiles

## Launch

We will create our own illustrations and later create a hanging mobile using construction paper, paint, string, scissors and branches to demonstrate knowledge of the life cycle of the Painted Lady Butterfly.

What is a mobile?	<a href="#">Link to Wikipedia definition</a>  Dictionary.com says that a mobile is a sculpture made up of suspended shapes that move.  Oxford Dictionary: a mobile is a decorative structure that is suspended so as to turn freely in the air.  <a href="#">Example of a mobile by Alexander Calder that hangs in the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC.</a>
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<p>Tell students to take their journals out and write a brief description and sketch of a hanging mobile that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) They have at home</li> <li>b) They have seen in a store, museum, etc..</li> <li>c) They have created at school before</li> </ul> <p>Allow 10 minutes for sketching and writing</p> <p>Students will work together in groups of 3-4 to compare their notes and share ideas with others</p>	
<p>Formative Assessment</p> <p>Have students sketched and written about mobiles and shared their ideas? Do they have an understanding of what a mobile is?</p>	
<p>Painted Lady Butterfly Life Cycle</p>	<p>Use students' previous knowledge/experience in the classroom (terms &amp; stages of development). Recall terms and stages by showing flashcards with images</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Egg</li> <li>b) Caterpillar (also called larva)</li> <li>c) Chrysalis (also called pupa)</li> <li>d) Adult Butterfly</li> </ul>
<p>Formative Assessment</p> <p>Do students recall the terms and stages of the butterfly life cycle?</p>	




Make

[Watch Art In Action Video](#)

Optional: [Show Examples of Butterfly Mobiles](#)

1	<p>Sketch and color each stage of the life cycle on a piece of construction paper, and label each one.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Egg</li> <li>b) Caterpillar (larva)</li> <li>c) Chrysalis (pupa)</li> </ul>
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	d) Adult Butterfly	
2	Cut out the life cycle stages and labels and place them in order	
Formative Assessment Have all students drawn, labeled, and ordered their butterfly life stages?		
3	Lay out mobile pieces on a flat surface, starting with the stick/rod at the top and working down. (Note: the butterfly stages should be in order)	
4	<p>Figure out the length of yarn that you want (doubled up, about an arm's length is a good place to start from). Fold it in half to create a loop. Put the loop at the top of the stick and pull the ends of the yarn through to secure it to the stick. This is where all of the materials that will hang from the mobile will attach to.</p> <p>Students will need four yarn pieces.</p>	
Formative Assessment Do students have four pieces of yarn, one for each life stage?		
5	Cut a length of yarn to tie to the top of the stick for hanging the completed mobile. Take the same length of yarn and repeat on the opposite side of the stick to complete the hanger.	
6	<p>Add the butterfly life stages to the mobile, one per string, then add any other materials.</p> <p>Consider how the objects will be secured to the mobile. You can use a hole punch to make a hole to insert the yarn into and tie, or use a stapler to staple to the yarn, etc.</p>	

	<p>Think about how high or low you want these objects to hang from the mobile for visual appeal and interesting shadows.</p> <p>Objects that have holes punched out of them can get threaded through and knotted at various lengths of the yarn.</p> <p>Repeat this process for all mobile items.</p> <p>To make it extra secure, use a double knot.</p>	
<p><b>Formative Assessment</b></p> <p>Have students added butterfly life stages to the mobile in order? Have they experimented with yarn height and adding extra design elements to add visual interest to their work?</p>		
7	<p>Fresh greenery can be added to the yarn portion of the mobile. Cut sprigs to a manageable size with scissors and then tie a knot in the yarn where you'd like the greens to go.</p> <p>Locate a secure part of the greenery, insert into the yarn near the bottom of the knot you created and then knot right under the bottom of the sprig to secure.</p>	
8	<p>Students can also use yarn to attach decorations to the top stick/dowel part of the mobile, such as fresh greenery or paper cutouts.</p>	
9	<p>Find a place to hang it and enjoy the wonder of your new artwork!</p>	

## Summative Assessment

- Have all students completed mobiles that hang and that demonstrate the Painted Butterfly life cycle? What was easy about this project? What was challenging?

## Wrap-Up

- Class Art Walk – Notice different artistic choices classmates made in their mobiles.

## Additional Resources

### Mobiles

- <https://canvas.saatchiart.com/art/art-news/art-in-motion-the-story-behind-mobiles>
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mobile\\_\(sculpture\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mobile_(sculpture))
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander\\_Calder](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander_Calder)
- <https://www.marcomahler.com/mobiles-before-calder-who-invented-mobiles-history/>

### Butterfly Life Cycle

- [BISD 3rd Grade Lesson Plan Lesson 9. Butterfly Life Cycle - Caterpillars](#)
- [BISD 3rd Grade Lesson Plan Lesson 10. Butterfly Life Cycle -Chrysalis](#)
- [BISD 3rd Grade Lesson Plan Lesson 11. Butterfly Life Cycle- Butterflies](#)