MAKING A BUTTERFLY FEEDER!

If you'd like to attract some colourful butterfly friends to your backyard, we've got just the thing, a butterfly feeder you can make right now with household items!

This will allow you to observe some of these amazing insects and study them for yourself. Maybe you can even find some caterpillars to grow.



MATERIALS

- A PAPER CUP
- STRING
- SCISSORS
- A SPONGE
- COLOURED PAPER (BRIGHTER IS BETTER)
- TAPE
- ORANGE JUICE OR BUTTERFLY FOOD

PROCEDURE

- 1. CAREFULLY POKE TWO HOLES IN THE TOP OF THE CUP, OPPOSITE FROM ONE ANOTHER.
- 2. CUT A PIECE OF STRING ABOUT 1 FOOT IN LENGTH AND TIE EACH END INTO ONE OF THOSE HOLES.
- 3. TURN THE CUP OVER AND POKE A LARGE HOLE IN THE BOTTOM MIDDLE OF THE CUP.
- 4. CUT A PIECE OF THE SPONGE THAT WILL FIT INTO THE BOTTOM OF THE CUP. PUT IT INSIDE AND PUSH IT THROUGH THE OPENING JUST A LITTLE BIT.
- 5. DRAW A FLOWER ON YOUR COLOURED PAPER. THE LEAVES SHOULD BE BIGGER THAN YOUR CUP. YOU'LL ALSO NEED TO CUT A HOLE IN THE MIDDLE TO ALLOW ACCESS TO THE SPONGE.
- 6. TAPE YOUR PAPER TO THE CUP, LINING UP THE HOLES AND ALLOWING THE SPONGE TO POKE THROUGH.
- 7. NOW ADD 3 TABLESPOONS OF ORANGE JUICE. THIS WILL SOAK INTO THE SPONGE AND SLOWLY DRIP, GIVING THE BUTTERFLIES SOME SWEET FOOD.

 IF YOU'D LIKE TO USE BUTTERFLY FOOD INSTEAD, FOLLOW THIS RECIPE: IN A SMALL POT OVER LOW HEAT, SLOWLY HEAT 1 CUP OF WATER AND ¼ CUP OF SUGAR. THIS SHOULD REDUCE IN ABOUT HALF AN HOUR TO MAKE A ½ CUP OF BUTTERFLY FOOD: A CLEAR, SWEET SYRUP.
- 9. HANG YOUR CUP FROM A TREE IN THE GARDEN AND WAIT FOR BUTTERFLIES! MAKING CHANGES TO THE FLOWER COLOUR AND JUICE YOU USE WILL ALLOW FOR DIFFERENT RESULTS. KEEP NOTES!



THIS EXPERIMENT IS GREAT FOR BEGINNER EXPLORERS, USES HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, AND REQUIRES ADULT SUPERVISION FOR USE OF SCISSORS. A STOVE IS REQUIRED IF YOU MAKE YOUR OWN BUTTERFLY FOOD.

