

Blue Morpho



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(*Morpho peleides*)

With its wings closed, the Blue Morpho is superbly camouflaged. The drab undersides of its wings blend in with dead leaves and tree bark, and large eyespots confuse predators. With its wings open, the butterfly is an iridescent blue. The contrasting colors make it look like it is disappearing and reappearing as it flutters through the forests of Central and South America. The larger and brighter males often chase rivals from their territory.

Caterpillars feed on plants in the pea family and defend themselves by secreting a foul smelling liquid. Adults feed on tree sap and the juices of rotting fruit and carrion.



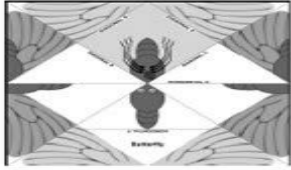
DORSAL



VENTRAL

Directions

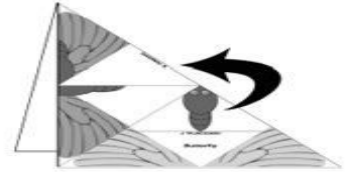
Step 1.
Remove the origami from the book by carefully tearing along the perforation at the top.



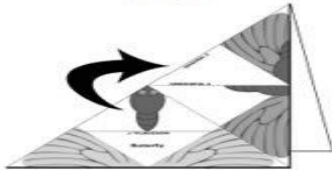
Step 2.
With the printed side up, valley fold along HORIZONTAL A.
Unfold.



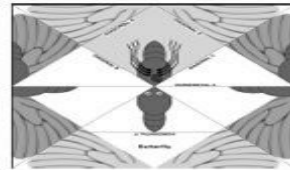
Step 3.
Mountain fold along DIAGONAL B.
Unfold.



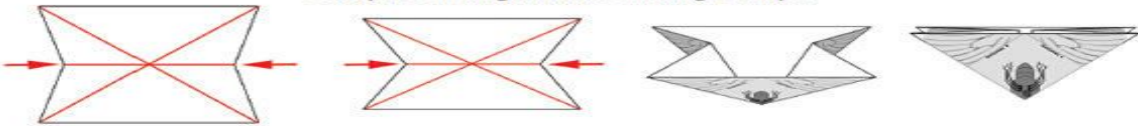
Step 4.
Mountain fold along DIAGONAL C.
Unfold.



Step 5.
Your origami should now be creased as shown.



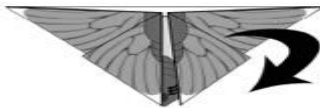
Step 6.
With the printed side down, pull in at the arrows to collapse the origami into a triangle shape.



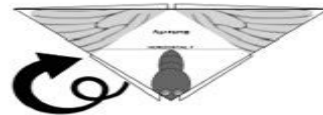
Step 7.
With the butterfly's ventral side up (legs showing), fold down DIAGONAL D.



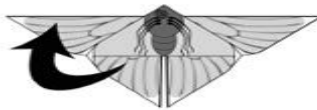
Step 8.
Fold down DIAGONAL E.



Step 9.
Turn the origami over, so the side with the butterfly's name is facing up.



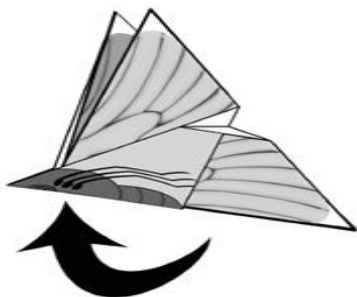
Step 10.
Fold up HORIZONTAL F.



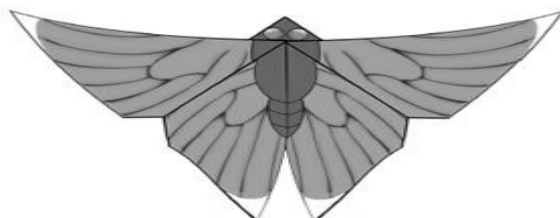
Step 11.
At this point, your origami should appear as shown.



Step 12.
Fold the wings up along the midline.



Step 13.
Your butterfly is now complete!



Monarch

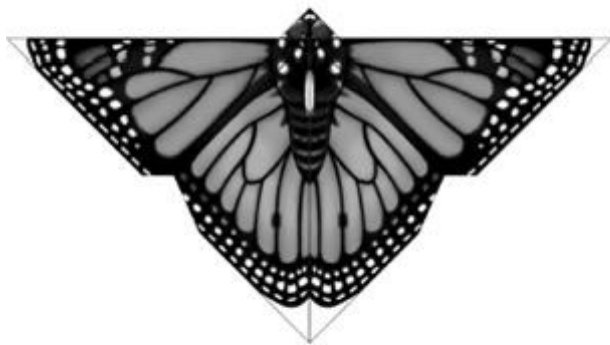


Monarch

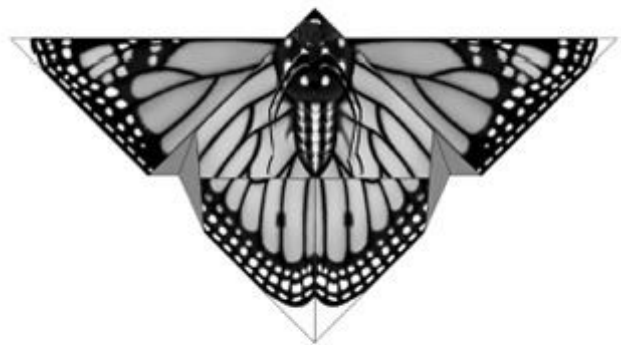
(*Danaus plexippus*)

Every winter, Monarchs travel up to 3,000 miles from North America to warmer climates in Northern South America—a migration that spans four butterfly generations. They cluster by the thousands in trees along the way to rest and keep warm. Scientists don't fully understand how they find their way, but suspect they are aided by the sun's position and the earth's magnetic pull.

The Monarch's bright markings warn birds and other predators that they are poisonous. This warning strategy is so effective, that the Viceroy butterfly mimics the Monarch's appearance to deter predators.



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from Easy Butterfly Origami, Dover Publications