

Mission:

12. Monarch Mania

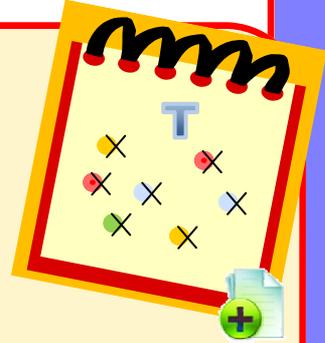
ORGANIZATION:

Music: 7. Freeze

Materials: One butterfly cutout for each child in a variety of colors, stop-and-go music.

Books: *From Caterpillar to Butterfly* by Deborah Heiligman; *Bear Sees Colors* by Karma Wilson; *My Many Colored Days* by Dr. Seuss

Set up: Tape butterflies to the floor (or to polypots) in a large circle.



Place large cutout butterflies in a circle. Children begin by standing either on each butterfly or a step next to each butterfly. Begin by playing music and the children move in a circle. When the music stops, children stop on a butterfly. Then give a direction, such as, "If you are on a blue butterfly, change places." Then, all children on a blue butterfly find a new blue butterfly to stand on. The game continues with the teacher asking children standing on different colors to change places. If you say, "Monarch Mania", ALL children change places.

VARIATIONS:

To add challenge, label butterflies with alphabet letters or numbers instead of colors.

EXTRA TIPS:

Make sure butterflies are securely attached to the polypots or the floor to avoid children slipping. Practice moving around and stopping on a butterfly before adding the new rule of switching. With the command "Freeze" children may stop where they are.

Monarch Mania

CHOOSE:

Children are allowed to choose the initial color (letter, number, shape) they stand on and what color (letter, number, shape) they move to during the game.

ASSESS:

Development and Learning Objectives:

- TSG 16a - Letter naming
- Early Learning Standard 11.2 - Early Literacy, Benchmark 4
- TSG 20c - Names numerals
- Early Learning Standard 12.1 - Comparison and Number, Benchmark 5
- TSG 21a - Understands shapes
- Early Learning Standard 12.3 - Shapes and Spatial Reasoning, Benchmark 3

Physical:

- TSG 4b, c - Runs, Gallops, Skips
- Early Learning Standard 8.2 - Large Motor Development, Benchmark 1

RELATE:

Children work together to make sure each child finds the correct new spot when trading places.



ENERGIZE THE BRAIN (EF):

Children show inhibition when starting and stopping to music and by moving only when their color is named. Children also practice working memory and cognitive flexibility when asking children on “numbers” to trade places with children on “colors” (children will need to remember what number they were on and that they are now moving to a color, and vice versa). Switching places also practices cognitive flexibility.