

How to feed your **Butterfly**

What butterflies eat

Butterflies eat nectar which comes from flowers.

Unfortunately, feeding butterflies with flowers is not quite so simple. Many flowers don't have nectar and they tend to only retain nectar for a day after being picked.

Instead we need to give our butterflies an artificial nectar.

Butterflies taste with their feet! Putting their food where they can taste it is helpful to know!

Artificial nectar options

- Fruit juice. As is.
- Ribena Syrup: 1 part to 3 parts water.
- Cordial: 1 part to 3 parts water
- Cut fruit: strawberries or watermelon.

How to feed your butterfly

Once you have picked and mixed up your nectar you have a few feeding options.

1. Roll up paper towel and twist into a rope. Soak paper towel in your mixture. Lay the paper towel around a plate. Gently pick up the Monarchs and place them on the paper towel to feed.
2. Paper towel wrapped around skewer or toothpick, soak in nectar - place in front of butterfly for them to climb on.
3. Get a clean kitchen sponge (rinse thoroughly even if new); cut a small square off it and soak in the mixture. Put the sponge onto a skewer and hold it in front of the butterfly.