

Butterflies of ^{THE}BATTERY

The vibrant gardens of The Battery attract an abundance of pollinators throughout the warm season, including a variety of butterflies. Use this guide to identify and learn more about some of our most common butterfly visitors. Please remember to follow all social distancing guidelines while at The Battery. We hope you enjoy your visit!



Summer Azure

Celastrina neglecta

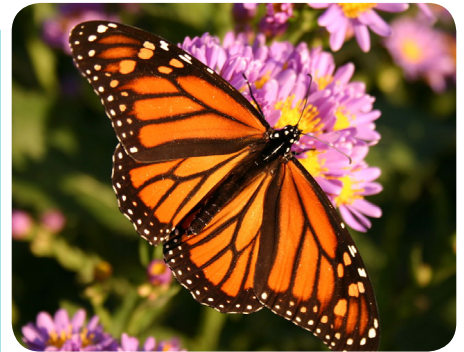
Appearing across most of eastern North America, the Summer Azure earns its name because of the pale blue color of its wings. The underside of the wings are a duller white color. Once the caterpillars have transformed into chrysalises, they remain dormant through winter until they emerge as adults in the late spring.



Orange Sulphur

Colias eurytheme

This butterfly's caterpillars love to feed on members of the legume family of plants, especially alfalfa. They can become such pests for alfalfa crops that some farmers release parasitic wasps to prey on the caterpillars and control their population. The adult butterflies pollinate a range of flower types and colors.



Monarch

Danaus plexippus

One of the world's most well-known butterflies, the Monarch covers thousands of miles in its annual migration between North and South America. The caterpillars feed on the host plant milkweed, and consume 200 times their weight in leaves over the course of their two-week growth period.



Silver-spotted Skipper

Epagyreus clarus

Butterflies, moths, and skippers are all members of the scientific order *Lepidoptera*. While butterflies have blunt ends to their antennae, skippers have pointed hooks at the end of theirs. The Silver-spotted Skipper has a noticeable silver patch on the underside of its wing that makes it easily identifiable.



Common Buckeye

Junonia coenia

The Common Buckeye's wings display prominent eyespots, which the butterfly can flash when disturbed by a predator, to scare and confuse their pursuer. Every winter, all of the North American adults of this species migrate to Florida, where they overwinter.



Eastern Tiger Swallowtail

Papilio glaucus

Only the females of this species display the band of blue at the base of their wings, while the males are purely yellow and black. They do not migrate, but instead produce multiple broods during the summer season, which then hibernate through cold winter climates as chrysalises.

See more on the next page...



Black Swallowtail
Papilio polyxenes

The Swallowtails are some of the largest species of butterfly, with wingspans reaching four inches. Their caterpillars feed primarily on parsley and fennel plants.



Cloudless Sulphur
Phoebis sennae

The Cloudless Sulphur has yellow-green wings that appear neon in the sunlight. They are more common along open spaces, fields, and seashores than in forests.



Pearl Crescent
Phyciodes tharos

The Pearl Crescent is abundant across North America and Mexico. The patterns of orange and black on the wings vary greatly between different individuals.



Cabbage White
Pieris rapae

Native to Europe, the Cabbage White butterfly spread across the world through human trade routes of particular crops like cabbage and broccoli, which the caterpillars feed on.



Zabulon Skipper
Poanes zabulon

Zabulon Skipper males will spend most of the day perched on tall grasses or bushes, waiting for passing females to mate with.



Question Mark
Polygonia interrogationis

The undersides of the Question Mark's wings have the dull brown appearance of a dead leaf, helping this butterfly camouflage among the wooded areas it frequents.



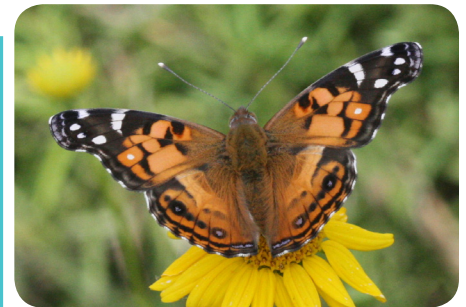
Red Admiral
Vanessa atalanta

The main host plant for Red Admiral caterpillars is stinging nettle, *Urtica dioica*. The population spreads across North America seasonally, wintering primarily in southern Texas.



Painted Lady
Vanessa cardui

These butterflies are widespread, appearing on all continents other than Antarctica and Australia. Studies have recorded Painted Ladies feeding from more than 100 different plant species.



American Lady
Vanessa virginiensis

American Lady butterflies are most easily distinguished from their Painted Lady relatives by the two prominent eyespots they display on the underside of each wing.

Check out our other visitor guides and more at www.thebattery.org

Email education@thebattery.org with questions or for list of image sources.