



Flying Monarch Butterfly Instructions

Monarch butterflies are sometimes used as symbols during Day of the Dead to represent the souls of those who have passed on. This symbolism is inspired by the migration Monarch butterflies make every year around the time of Day of the Dead.

This activity will let you make your own flying monarch butterfly. You can put it on an altar or just decorate your space with it!

***THERE ARE PICTURES OF THE STEPS AT THE END OF THIS DOCUMENT ***

Materials:

- Wooden stick
- Butterfly template
- Green construction paper
- Black marker or pen
- Scissors
- Tape
- Glue

1. First draw a pattern on your butterfly template. You can replicate the patterns usually found on the wings of the Monarch Butterfly, or you can also write the name(s) of someone who might have passed away to represent them in your altar.
2. Once you're done drawing, you can begin cutting out the butterfly from the sheet. Smaller hands might need help with this step.
3. Grab your green construction paper and fold it horizontally or "hamburger" style.
4. Cut along the crease of your fold.
5. Create 1 thick pipe and 1 thin pipe with the green construction paper pieces.
6. Use the wooden stick to roll the thin pipe. Apply glue after every couple rolls to secure the stick in the pipe as best as possible.
7. Make a thicker pipe with the remaining piece of construction paper. Make sure you can fit the thinner pipe/wooden stick in the thicker pipe.
8. Get your butterfly cut out.
9. Fold along the crease in the center of the butterfly. Make sure the black surface is visible when completing the fold.
10. Grab your thin pipe and cut about 1 inch or 2cm along opposite sides of the thin pipe.
11. Slide the bottom, rectangular portion of the butterfly into the slit in your thin pipe.
12. Apply tape to secure the butterfly to the pipe.

13. Grab your thick pipe and cut a slit as long as the wings of your butterfly along opposite sides of the pipe.
14. Add an extra inch or 2 cm to the cut on your thick pipe.
15. Slip the thin pipe into the thick pipe.
16. Secure the wings to the thick pipe using tape.
17. Secure the wooden stick to the paper pipe using tape.

Now test your butterfly's wings by pushing the stick upward with one hand and holding the thick pipe with the other. Don't forget to be creative and have fun. Happy Day of the Dead!



