



Discover Butterflies

Fact File Of the 59 kinds of butterflies found in the UK, 35 can be found on the Avon Gorge and Downs! Not only are butterflies very beautiful but they are also really important for wildlife, pollinating plants and providing food for birds and other animals. Because of this, butterfly numbers help to show us how healthy the environment is.



- Summer is a great time of year to go butterfly spotting. Why not print out our Butterfly ID swatch and see how many butterflies you can spot in the meadow!

● You will need

- the butterfly ID swatch pictures on the next page
- some thin card (cereal box or similar)
- some glue
- a sharp pencil
- a split pin or some string
- a note book for recording your sightings

- Simply glue the butterfly pictures onto the thin card, cut them out carefully and use a sharp pencil or hole punch to make a hole through the grey dot. Thread the pictures onto the string or join them with a split pin.



Top tips for butterfly spotting!

- The best time for butterfly spotting is on a calm sunny day when butterflies can bask in the sunshine.
- Try to move as calmly and quietly as you can, sudden movements can startle butterflies!
- If you spot a butterfly on the ground or on a leaf, try not to cast your shadow over it, as this will probably make it fly away!
- Never try to catch or pick up a butterfly. Their wings are covered in tiny fragile scales which can be damaged by handling.

If you enjoy butterfly spotting, you might like to join in Butterfly Conservation's 'Big Butterfly Count' @ <https://www.bigbutterflycount.org/> and help to see how our UK butterfly populations are doing!



Photo credits : Avon Gorge and Downs Wildlife Project, Oskar Henriksson, Denise Stout, Hetty Upton, Emma Davis, Kelly Thomas.



