



## Online Resources for Monarch Education

### **Citizen Science Projects:**

Monarch Watch at <http://monarchwatch.org/>

Monarch Watch is an educational outreach program based at the University of Kansas that engages citizen scientists in monarch conservation and research. Visitors can purchase tagging kits and learn how to tag monarchs and track their migration to Mexico. Visitors can also learn how to create a butterfly garden habitat, and certify their site as a Monarch Waystation to show their support for monarch conservation. Conservation Specialists are available to help with education/outreach activities.

Journey North at <http://www.learner.org/jnorth/monarch/>

Journey North is a free, Internet-based program provided by the Annenberg Foundation. This website allows participants to share field observations across the northern hemisphere, observing and tracking the monarch migration to and from Mexico. Participants can report monarch sightings to live maps, keep an online journal, view tutorials designed by monarch scientists, and interact with students in Mexico via the Symbolic Monarch Migration program. Be sure to visit Journey North for Kids for a number of online resources for classroom learning.

Monarch Larva Monitoring Project at <http://www.mlmp.org/>

The MLMP is a citizen science project designed by researchers at the University of Minnesota to collect long-term data on larval monarch populations and milkweed habitat. The goal is to better understand how and why monarch populations vary in time and space. Volunteers learn how to collect data and report their observations to monarch scientists. MLMP is a program designed to introduce young adults to field science and help them develop an insatiable curiosity about nature. Trainers can serve as speakers for monarch programs.

Monarch Health at <http://www.monarchparasites.org/>

Monarch Health is a citizen science project designed by researchers at the University of Georgia to help track the spread of a monarch protozoan parasite, *Ophryocystis elektroscirrha* (OE), in wild monarchs across the U.S.

Cape May Monarch Monitoring Project at <http://www.monarchmonitoringproject.com/>

Southwest Monarch Study at <http://www.swmonarchs.org/> studying monarchs in AZ

### **Resources for Educators:**

Monarchs in the Classroom at <http://www.monarchlab.org/mitc/> curriculum resources for educators

MonarchLIVE archived webcasts at <http://monarch.pwnet.org/> During the 2008-09 school year, MonarchLIVE broadcast and webcast from several points along the migration. Those programs are available as archived video on the website. Webcasts cover monarch conservation, butterfly gardening, visits to the MBBR and more. In-depth presentations from many of the major monarch scientists, for use with school children and the public at-large.

Monarch Teacher Network at <http://www.eirc.org/website/programs-services/global-connection/monarch-teacher-network/> a network of teachers who raise and educate with monarchs

<http://www.channelone.com/video/saving-the-monarchs/#ooid=VIN2djMjpQF> educational video showing monarchs in Mexico

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zGmobCkApO0> Free monarch lifecycle video by Ba Rea, also available on School tube at

<http://www.schooltube.com/video/4d38f1d0aab0e9dda891/Monarch%20Life%20Cycle%20and%20Migration%202011>

Climate Kids by NASA at <http://climatekids.nasa.gov/butterfly-garden/> explains to kids why invasives are a problem, and emphasizes the importance of growing native plants for native butterflies

### **Conservation Organizations:**

Monarch Joint Venture at <http://www.monarchjointventure.org/> a partnership of federal and state agencies, non-governmental organizations, and academic programs that are working together to support and coordinate efforts to protect the monarch migration across the lower 48 United States. The MJV is committed to a science-based approach to monarch conservation work, guided by the [North American Monarch Conservation Plan \(2008\)](#).

The Xerces Society at <http://www.xerces.org> a nonprofit organization that protects wildlife through the conservation of invertebrates and their habitat. See the book, *Attracting Native Pollinators*; view brochure for the Southeast on monarchs, milkweed, native lepidoptera and their hostplants.

### **Outreach Activities:**

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/lessonrepro/lessonplans/profbooks/migrating.htm> free monarch board game

Bas Relief.org at <http://basrelief.org/Pages/notes.html> free monarch coloring pages, monarch lifecycle posters, board game; contains free parent/teacher guides for the book, *Monarch! Come Play With Me*, written by Ba Rea for school children. The book is available in a Spanish language version as well.

Projects at <http://www.butterflyschool.org/teacher/aandc.html> includes instructions for creating a butterfly lifecycle project with pasta, tissue paper butterflies, stained glass butterflies, cards, etc. from Butterfly School, a division of the Missouri Botanical Garden

Milkweed pod angel/fairy craft at <http://www.thriftyfun.com/tf15935757.tip.html>

Google “Milkweed Pod Crafts” for a plethora of craft ideas using dried milkweed pods

### **Monarch Educators:**

Monarch Watch Conservation Specialists at <http://www.monarchwatch.org/cs/>

Monarch Larva Monitoring Project trainers and experts at <http://www.mlmp.org/Training/RegionalExperts.aspx>