

To describe the characteristics of something

# Report Butterflies

written in 3rd person

Butterflies belong to the order of insects known as Lepidoptera. This means they have **scaly** bodies and wings, and a feeding tube on the front of the head, called a proboscis, coiled up when not in use. Their wings may be large, **brightly coloured** and **patterned**. Butterflies are found in most parts of the world and different species are adapted to the environments in which they live.

introduction of what you are going to write about

factual adjectives often about colour, position and

*Like all insects*, the butterfly's body is divided into three parts: head, thorax and abdomen. On the head are a pair of antennae, used for smelling, and two large compound eyes. Three pairs of legs and two pairs of wings - fore and hind - grow from the thorax. The wings are made of very thin membrane, stretched over a framework of 'veins', **in the same way as the skin of an umbrella** is stretched over the frame. Tiny overlapping scales on the membrane give the wings their pattern and colour.

the paragraphs separate the different subjects

passive voice to be formal impersonal

use of comparison for effect and to clarify

general terms

*Male butterflies* tend to be more brightly coloured than the females but the females are larger. They also have bigger wings, enabling them to fly even when they are carrying a heavy burden of eggs. A female butterfly may lay up to 3,000 eggs, always choosing the appropriate plant for the caterpillars to feed on. However, usually only one or two eggs out of a hundred hatch out and many others die as they grow through the stages of **larva** (caterpillar) and **chrysalis** (pupa) to become an **imago** (adult butterfly).

this paragraph is about males and females

technical words

The imago usually has a lifespan of only a few weeks. It feeds on nectar from flowers or other sweet food, such as over-ripe fruit, which it sucks up through the proboscis. This food provides energy to fly and reproduce, but **most butterflies** do not need any body-building foods to see them through their short lives. In fact, **a few species** have mouthparts that do not open so they cannot feed.

this paragraph is about feeding

## Writing a Report - Lower Key Stage 2

- Does my first paragraph tell the reader something general to introduce the topic - *Butterflies and moths are from the same family of insects* - and **who, what, where, when?**
- Do my paragraphs contain information about the same thing - *paragraph 1* - what it's like, *paragraph 2* - what it does?
- Does my final paragraph sum up key points?
- Do I need underlined headings or subheadings, bullets or lists to make the information easier to read?
- Have I thought about presentation CAPITALS, bold print, boxes, **colours?**
- Have I labelled or written a caption for the diagrams?
- Have I used **adjectives and adverbs** to add factual detail?
- Have I used some connecting words - *so, because?*
- Have I used present tense and third person?

## Writing a Report - Upper Key Stage 2

- Does my first paragraph tell the reader something general to introduce the topic - *Natural disasters are changes, which are so great they cause damage to the land or to living things - and then who, what, where, when?*
- Do my paragraphs contain information about the same thing and are they in a logical order?
- Have I included **detail** about special features, or made **comparisons**? *A moth's wings are not like.... The pass was identical to ... This animal is related to ...*
- Does presentation make the information easy to locate? Underlined headings or subheadings, labels, CAPITALS, bold print, text boxes.
- Have I used factual adjectives, precise nouns, verbs and general terms to be concise? *Humans, mammals.*
- Have I used some **connecting words** like *so, because, also, when, which?*
- Have I used present tense and third person all the way through?
- Is the style formal, sometimes using the passive voice? *The eggs are laid in the spring.*