



# BUTTERFLY CHILDREN





## Science Magic with the Monarch

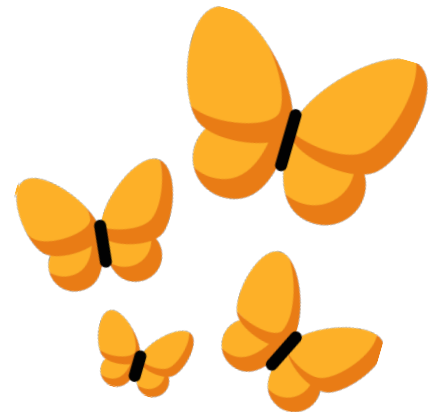
After 14 years as one of Montreal's Nomad Scientists travelling to remote areas of Quebec to promote science literacy, Harold Spanier finally hit upon the perfect subject to inspire young children to explore the mystery, beauty, and fragility of nature: the monarch butterfly.

In 1996, he took 10 children from Mary Gardner School in Chateauguy to El Rosario Reserve in Mexico to visit the winter home of the insect species. The Discovery Channel documented the visit.

Monarch Watch is an organization that keeps track of the migration of these beautiful creatures by having North Americans, children and adults, keep an eye out for them. Visit [monarchwatch.org](http://monarchwatch.org) to learn how your family can participate in this worthy learning experience.

## THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP THE MONARCH BUTTERFLY:

-  Build a butterfly garden: these insects are attracted to certain plants and flowers;
-  Don't cut down milkweed. Monarchs use the plant to propagate;
-  Guide your children toward books and magazines about insects and the ecosystem;
-  Read story books about insects. *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle is a favourite; *Monarch Butterfly* by Gail Gibbons is another.



## WEBSITES OF INTEREST:

[www.monarchwatch.org](http://www.monarchwatch.org)  
[www.mission-monarch.org](http://www.mission-monarch.org) (Montréal's Insectarium)  
[wwwf.ca/species/monarch-butterfly](http://wwwf.ca/species/monarch-butterfly)

