



Handle with Care: An Unusual Butterfly Journey

Loree Griffin Burns , Ellen Harasimowicz (Photographer)

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Some farms grow vegetables or grains, and some raise cows, sheep, chickens, or pigs. But have you ever heard of a butterfly farm? How do you raise a butterfly?

On a farm in Costa Rica, workers care for these delicate, winged creatures as they change from eggs to caterpillars to pupae. Like any other crop, the butterflies will eventually leave the farm. But where will they go? And just how do you ship a butterfly?

Very carefully! To discover how it works, follow these butterflies on a remarkable journey!

Handle with Care: An Unusual Butterfly Journey Details

Date : Published January 1st 2014 by Millbrook Press (Tm)

ISBN : 9780761393429

Author : Loree Griffin Burns , Ellen Harasimowicz (Photographer)

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Genre : Nonfiction, Childrens, Picture Books, Science, Environment, Nature, Animals



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From Reader Review Handle with Care: An Unusual Butterfly Journey for online ebook

Hayley Jacobs says

Genre: Informational

Unique Feature: This book took a unique perspective on displaying the butterfly life cycle by traveling through the cycle as a butterfly on a butterfly farm in Costa Rica, rather than simply stating how the life cycle occurs. The beautifully detailed photographs paired with helpful diagrams and a narrative style make this text an engaging informational book for students who may not be comfortable with informational texts.

Grade(s): 3-4: I would say this book begins at the 3-4 grade level independently, but couldn't definitely be used as a read-aloud in younger elementary and be part of instruction within upper elementary with the details the book provides.

Date Completed: 03/18/18

Katherine Austin says

1) Book summary, in your own words (3 pts)

-Students can learn about butterflies and their metamorphosis process in this interesting picture book. The book talks about how there are even people whose job it is to harvest caterpillars and nurture them until they turn into butterflies. The illustrations in the book do a great job of capturing students' attention and enhancing their understanding.

2) Grade level, interest level, lexile (1 pt)

-Kindergarten-2nd grade

3) Appropriate classroom use (subject area) (1 pt)

-Science

4) Individual students who might benefit from reading (1 pt)

-Students who love science, animals, or nature.

5) Small group use (literaturecircles) (1 pt)

-I would have students read/look through pictures then draw pictures to demonstrate the processes of metamorphosis.

6) Whole class use (read aloud) (1 pt)

-I would carpet read to students and then "grow" our own butterflies.

7) Related books in genre/subject or content area (1 pt)

-Beetle Busters by Loree Griffin Burns

8) Multimedia connections (audio book, movie) available (1 pt)

-YouTube audio available.

Rachel Herrington says

This was an informative book about the life cycle of butterflies, but specifically blue morpho butterflies that are bred in Costa Rica. At El Bosque Nuevo farms in Costa Rica, they breed butterflies by helping them grow until they reach their pupae form, which is the same as a chrysalis. Then, the pupae are shipped all over

the world for people to watch them open into beautiful butterflies, and for people to learn about them. I liked this book because it had all the terminology used for butterflies and their life cycle, but it was still made easy for a young reader to understand. It was also a unique way to explain it, because it went all the way to Costa Rica and showed how they did it there. I would use this in my young elementary classroom if we were learning about butterflies. This would be a good route to take because it not only explains the life cycle, but gives it from a unique perspective.

Mhedish17 says

This is a science informational book about the life cycle of a butterfly. We follow the journey of the butterflies in the Costa Rican rainforest as they develop through all their stages and eventually go to the butterfly garden in the Museum of Science in Boston, Massachusetts. I think this book is perfect for the lower grades such as 1st-2nd because their curriculum largely focuses on life cycles and the life cycles of a butterfly. It includes a lot of science vocabulary that may need to be additionally researched and defined for the students, but otherwise it is an age appropriate written text. The pictures would provide valuable material to build lesson plans out of and to demonstrate the life cycle in real time to the students.

Lauren Waters says

This is awesome for teaching sequence and the life cycle of butterflies. I liked the inclusion of photos to show the process.

Tasha says

When I started this book, I expected a beautiful book about the life cycle of butterflies, but then discovered this was so much more! In Costa Rica there is a farm that raises butterflies. The book begins by showing what a container received in the mail that is full of butterfly pupae looks like. The life cycle of butterflies is explained as is the pupa stage in particular. Then we head to Costa Rica and the farm itself and here is where the book turns into an amazing tour of sustainable butterfly farming. Readers get to see inside the greenhouses where the butterflies live and lay their eggs. The roles of the farmers are shown in detail as is the beauty of the natural world around the farm. Food for the butterflies, their transformation from egg to caterpillar to pupa, and the harvesting process are all detailed out for the reader. This book takes a familiar yet captivating transformation and turns it into a trip to Costa Rica and back again.

Burns text is very engaging. She describes the processes in detail but also throws in words that show how she too is excited by what is happening. Cabinets are described as “crawling with caterpillars” and the pupae are “sturdy and tightly sealed...ingenious packages ready to travel.” Her own delight at what is being described is evident and makes for very pleasurable reading.

The photography by Harasimowicz is simply beautiful. All of her work is not only clear and crisp but also demonstrates the various steps in the process. She uses different perspectives and different levels of distance to create a dynamic feel throughout the book.

A wonderful and lovely surprise of a butterfly nonfiction book, this one is a superb pick for butterfly fans and library collections. Appropriate for ages 7-10.

Carolanne says

Excellent photos!

Linda says

Others have raved about this book and finally I got it from the library. What a clear story about butterflies and their journey from the egg. And this book adds more because it is also the story of a group in Costa Rica who are raising butterfly pupae for museums all over the world so that everyone can learn about butterflies. The explanations are told in a story with added information on each page. The photographs serve as illustrations showing the stages from egg to butterfly and those at the business doing different jobs at the farm. There is a glossary and additional information in the back-matter.

Lauren Smith says

I read this book as an informational text and viewed it as an e-book. I have to admit, at first I was unsure how this book would be any different than every other book I've read about the life cycle of a butterfly. However, this book is different in that it describes how butterflies are grown from egg to pupae in a greenhouse of sorts, where they are then shipped around the World to different museums and classrooms, so students, teachers or other curious minds can watch them grow into butterflies. The photographs in this book are also excellent-even in the form of an e-book- and are very intriguing for readers. There is also a glossary and extra informational pages in the back. I would recommend this book for grades 3-5, and possibly even younger if done as a read-aloud, because it does a great job of describing the life cycle of a butterfly in a way that is a little different than other books they may have read. This would be a great book to introduce the topic of life cycles, especially if you will be watching butterflies hatch in your classroom, because it describes their journey before they got to your class! This would also be a great text to provide for students if they are creating some sort of product about the life cycle of a butterfly like a poster, brochure or research paper. In the ELA realm, life cycles are also a great way to have students sequence a story. Integrating science and reading instruction is extremely easy with "Handle with Care: An Unusual Butterfly Journey".

Ms Threlkeld says

A wonderful book for classes learning about the life cycle of butterflies or children interested in insects. The text is accessible for intermediate students reading independently, but could also be understood by primary age children with support from an adult. The photographs are a feast for the eyes. Great informational text!

Kate says

As someone who's raised my share of Monarchs on the back porch, I thought I'd seen pretty much everything when it comes to the butterfly life cycle book. I was wrong. **HANDLE WITH CARE** is a stunningly photographed, thoughtfully researched work of nonfiction that looks not only at the life cycle but also the ways in which that life cycle serves the Central American community where butterflies are sustainably farmed and then sent to museum butterfly houses around the world. It's a magical journey - one that young readers will find fascinating.

Brianne Nelson says

Handle With Care An Unusual Butterfly Journey is a nonfiction book that contains beautiful photographs that capture the life cycle of butterflies from a farm in Costa Rica. This book gives the reader a very special look into every stage of a butterfly's life cycle.

Burns, L. (2014). *Handle with Care An Unusual Butterfly Journey*. Minneapolis, MN: Millbrook Press.

Chris says

This review is based on a digital ARC provided by Netgalley.

This incredible book, filled with brilliantly crisp photographs, will excite the imagination of children everywhere, as they learn about the four part life cycle of the blue morpho butterfly. Told in easy to understand language, with accompanying photos, each part of the life cycle of the butterfly is outlined and explained. The really unique thing about this book is that it shows children exactly how the butterflies they see at their local butterfly house might have started out life in a totally different country; how they grew and changed and then finally made their way across the world. Rather than just laying out the facts about the life cycle of the butterfly, this book lets children delve into the workings of a butterfly farm. While learning about the hard work and meticulous care that goes into raising butterflies, children discover how each stage of a butterfly's life is gently coaxed along and protected. This enables children to learn the stages of life in a more meaningful way than simple diagrams and text, leaving them with deeper understanding, and hopefully, an interest in learning more. The back of the book includes not only a glossary, but a helpful page discussing different ways that the life cycle of butterflies and other insects might be described. Further notes and reading materials are provided, along with suggestions for finding more materials online. This is a wonderful resource that would find a home in any nonfiction collection.

Edward Sullivan says

A wonderful close up look at a butterfly farm in Costa Rica, beautifully illustrated with color photographs.

Susan says

Wow! Loved everything about this nonfiction title! The text is well paced and provides an appropriate amount for information on the topic. The photographs are stunning and add to the appeal of the book. And seriously, who could possibly resist picking this one up just because of the cover!

Add this title to your non-fiction MUSH BUY list!

ARC provided by NetGalley
