Butterfly Glider

Ages: Any if adapted for that age

Time: 15 – 20 minutes

Materials: One 4” x 6” index card, 3 regular sized paper clips, markers or crayons

Procedure:

1. Fold index card in half so the short ends meet. Trace the outline of half a butterfly along the fold. Cut this out.

2. Trace the keel (half a heart) and cut out.

3. Tape the keel along the folded bottom of butterfly about 1/16” away from the body.

4. Color the inside of butterfly.

5. Fold the butterfly in half again.

6. Pull two of the paperclips apart and place one on either side of the outside of the butterfly near the head. Tape both of these on securely.

7. Tape the third paperclip onto the bottom of the open butterfly across the other two paperclips. It needs to cross the crease at the bottom of butterfly.

8. Crease the bottom of the butterfly upward so it will fly.

Adaptations for different age levels: If patterns are cut out for younger children and the assisting teacher bends the paperclips into the right shape and helps the students tape the paper clips on, it’s perfect for children of any age!

Additional Comments: After we were done, we had races to see whose butterfly could go the farthest. The children really enjoyed the competition!