

How to make a butterfly ornament

You will need: cardboard roll, thin card (from a cereal box or similar), pencil, scissors, sticky tape, paint, paintbrush, fine nib permanent marker (black), string/ribbon or thin elastic (optional).

Instructions:

1. Draw one butterfly wing on a piece of thin card – make sure the wing you draw is shorter in height than the cardboard roll. Cut out. Use this as a template to draw (on thin card) and cut out another wing.
2. With some thin card scraps, cut out two antennae. If you have pipe cleaners then you can use these for antennae instead; you might like to twist them around a pencil to make an interesting shape.
3. Paint the cardboard roll, the butterfly wings and antennae. Leave to dry.
4. If adding patterns to the wings, paint and leave the wings to dry again.
5. Once everything is dry, use sticky tape to attach the butterfly wings to the body of the butterfly (cardboard roll). Also attach the antennae inside the top of the cardboard roll.
6. With the fine nib permanent marker, draw on a face on the front of the roll.
7. If you wish to hang up your butterfly, attach a short piece of string, ribbon or thin elastic – secure inside the top of the cardboard roll using sticky tape.
8. Well done – your butterfly is ready to fly!

Fun facts: a group of butterflies is called a flutter. It's true!

Our biggest butterfly is a swallowtail. Its name comes from its hind wings which look like a swallow's (bird) tail. It is quite rare to see one of these butterflies.

The Museum has a collection of butterflies and moths, which were collected by past collectors.

