Title: **Colorful Butterfly**

Life Skills Area: Acquiring, Analyzing and Using Information

LIFE SKILLS TAUGHT
Use of basic art supplies and equipment
Creativity
Investigating nature
Use of common household supplies in uncommon ways
Understanding self

MATERIALS NEEDED
1. Round paper coffee filters, approximately 7 inches in diameter
2. Water paints (box or tempera) and brushes or Q tips
3. Glass of water for paints
4. Waxed paper
5. Water in a spray bottle
6. Pipe cleaners, 12 inches long
7. Paper towels

PROCEDURES
1. Lay 12-inch square of waxed paper on protected table top.
2. Place 1 coffee filter on waxed paper; spray with water until wet and relaxed (flat on waxed paper).
3. Using brushes or Q tips and plenty water, apply paints to coffee filter in free, creative manner, encouraging colors to run and spread.
4. When finished, place colorful coffee filter between 2 layers of paper towel to partially dry. Utilize sunlight or air movement if available.
5. Repeat step 2, 3, and 4 for second wing set.
6. To assemble butterfly, place colorful coffee filters on a clean, smooth surface, overlapping the 2 circles by approximately 1 to 2 inches. Finger-pleat up through the middle of the length, gathering wings to approximately 1 to 2 inches in the mid section. Fluff and spread wings.
7. Fold pipe cleaner in half; crease fold. Place gathered center of butterfly wings inside folded pipe cleaner with lower edge of wing center firmly into crease. Flatten pipe cleaner against gathered center; bring pipe cleaner together at top of gathers forming body of butterfly, approximately 1- to 2-inches in length. Firmly twist together at top of
mid section. Gently curve and shape the remaining 4 to 5 inches of pipe cleaner on each end to form the antennae.

DISCUSSION
During the few minutes of drying time is a good opportunity for snacks and a discussion of how certain creatures go through dramatic developmental changes. Introduce the word “metamorphosis”.

HOME ACTIVITY
Tape butterfly to window or other visible area. Read books on butterflies. Learn more about “metamorphosis” from dictionary, encyclopedia, or internet.