



Build your own Balancing Butterfly

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Butterflies need to be really well-balanced in order to fly. In this activity, you'll make your own balancing butterfly model and learn about how our centre of gravity helps us keep our balance.

YOU WILL NEED

- Thin card
- Scissors
- Tape
- Paperclips
- Blu-Tack or plasticine
- Pencil
- Wooden skewer (or short stick)
- Colouring supplies (Optional)



INSTRUCTIONS

1. In the middle of your card, draw the head and body of your butterfly.
2. Draw the wings of your butterfly on either side of the body, trying to make both wings as symmetrical as possible. Make sure that the front tips of the wings extend further forward than the top of the head.
3. Colour in, then cut out, your butterfly shape.
4. Trim a piece of skewer (or stick) to the same length as your butterfly body, then tape it to the underside of the middle of the butterfly shape.
5. Place an equal number of paperclips and small lumps of plasticine on the underside of both of the front tips of your butterfly wings.
6. Hold out one finger and try to balance the end of the stick (underneath your butterfly's head) on your fingertip.
7. If the butterfly tilts backwards, add more weight to the front tips of the wings. If it tilts forwards, remove some weight from the front tips of the wings.
8. Repeat until you can balance the butterfly on your finger without it falling off.

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