

Butterfly, We're Expecting You

By Libby Hathorn & Illustrated by Lisa Stewart

Publisher: Lothian/Hachette

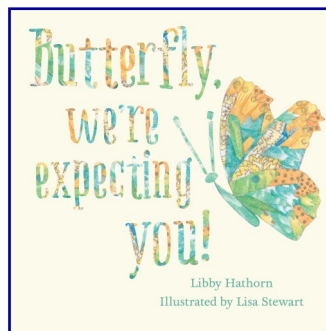
ISBN 9780734417008 SCIS: 1799643

\$24.99

Two small children discover the beauty and wonder of nature in their very own backyard in this beautifully illustrated story.

Come explore your backyard. Who knows what you'll find? A butterfly, a frog, a bird . . . maybe even a dinosaur!

A sweet and gentle story that feels as warm as a garden bathed in sunlight, from award-winning author Libby Hathorn and acclaimed illustrator Lisa Stewart.



Teacher notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher. The full version is available on our website.

Themes:

- Nature and the Life Cycle
- Playing and Imagination
- Friendship

Discussion Questions & Activities:

- These two children enjoy exploring their environment and vividly imagine these creatures responding to their questions. Discuss with students the games that they like to play, and what they like to imagine.
- These siblings are close friends. Their body language and the various forms of play they engage in show their close bond. Common interests are often a source of friendship. What other things contribute to making friends?
- Discuss the key values conveyed in this text, such as: nurturing, sharing and curiosity.
- What are some ways that you can show these values to your friends and family?
- Do you know how the lizard camouflages itself? Do you know any other animals that do this too? If so, which ones?
- As a class discuss all the aspects of a bird's life, for example: flight, nesting, chirping etc.
- The colours generally used in this book are delicately-hued pastels which reflect light in a luminous way. How does the use of colour affect your reading?
- Study the metamorphosis of the caterpillar. What other creatures transform into something else during their life cycle?
- Study how bees make honey in hives and how important they are to the ecosystem.
- Study the frog and its pond habitat.
- Study dinosaurs and their history.
- Create a list of fun facts for all the creatures in the story.
- Backyards are a wonderful source of information about nature. Invite students to create a logbook of everything they observe in their backyards over the space of a week. If they live in an apartment with no garden, invite them to visit a local park to form the basis of their observations.
- Conduct a class excursion exploring an area near your school. Encourage students to make up stories or to draw images in response to both what they observe and also what they imagine in this environment.
- Encourage students to write an acrostic poem using the letter in 'Butterfly'.
- Make a model of any of the creatures included in this text.