MARIPOSA/ Butterfly



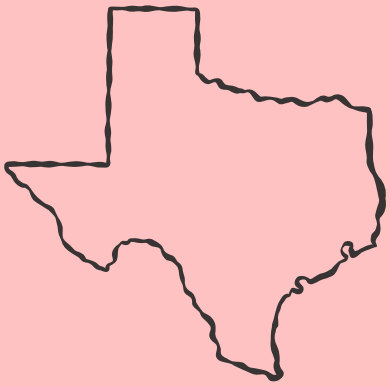
By Sandra Fenichel Asher & Jose Casas

WHAT HAPPENS IN THIS PLAY?

Two neighbors live side-by-side in Texas. A low fence separates their gardens, but much more divides them from each other. One grows flowers; the other raises vegetables. One was born in the U.S., the other in Mexico. One speaks English, the other Spanish. Their differences have kept them so far apart that if one predicts a sunny day, then the other is certain of rain. Even the arrival of a caterpillar causes disagreement—until the resulting mariposa/butterfly, and its eventual departure, unites them in wonder, sadness and a new understanding of the beautiful world they share.

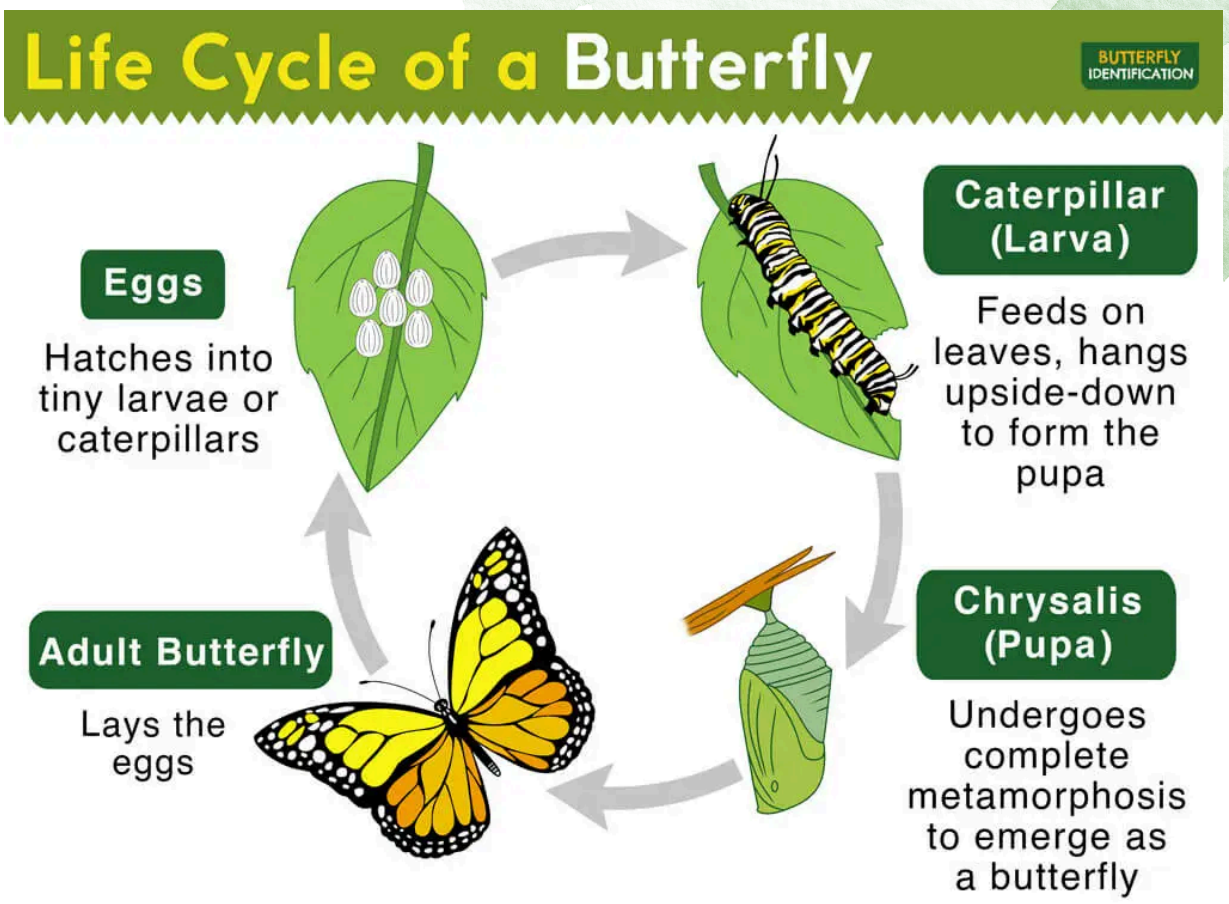


This is **Mexico**. Mexico is a North American country. Mexico is the United States' neighbor to the South.



This is **Texas**. Texas is a state in the United States of America. Texas borders Mexico to the North.

THE LIFE CYCLE OF A BUTTERFLY



FUN FACT!

The Monarch Butterfly is very significant in Mexican culture.

Monarch butterflies migrate from Canada to the Oyamel fir forests in the mountains of central Mexico, primarily in the state of Michoacán, each year.

In Mexico, the arrival of monarch butterflies coincides with Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead), a traditional Mexican holiday that honors deceased loved ones. The indigenous people of Mexico, including the Aztecs and the Purepecha, believed that monarch butterflies were the souls of their ancestors returning for the annual celebration.

MEET THE PLAYWRIGHTS

José Casas is a playwright and Assistant Professor who heads the Playwriting Minor in the Department of Theatre & Drama at the University of Michigan. He is a member of The Dramatists Guild as well as a Board Member of Children's Theatre Foundation of America. His plays include la rosa grows beyond the wall, all brown all chingon, aDoBe, a million whispers all at once, the vine, la ofrenda, somebody's children and Flint.





Sandra Fenichel Asher's plays have been produced nationally and abroad. A Woman Called Truth, In the Garden of the Selfish Giant and Jesse and Grace: A Best Friends Story have all been honored with the AATE Distinguished Play Award. A recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts grant in playwriting, AATE's Charlotte Chorpenning Award for a distinguished body of work in children's theatre, and AATE's Sara Spencer Artistic Achievement Award for lifetime contributions to the field.

PLANT A BUTTERFLY GARDEN



What plants would you add to your garden to attract butterflies? Use the QR code to view a list of plants that attract butterflies.

Then, draw them here in your own unique arrangement!



