

5. Feed your butterflies with nectar or fruit

Butterflies drink nectar with their long proboscises.



Need a butterfly feeder?

Visit [InsectLore.com](https://www.insectlore.com)!

Here's what to do:

- To make nectar to feed your butterflies, thoroughly mix 3 teaspoons of sugar with 1 cup of water. Drip a few drops of nectar on your butterfly feeder (or on a cotton ball or tissue), and place in the habitat. (If you are dripping nectar on a cotton ball or tissue, place it on a small paper plate and then place the plate in the habitat).
- Or, provide your butterflies with small slices of fresh fruit like watermelon, orange or banana.
- Give your butterflies fresh fruit every day.

Do not leave containers of water or nectar in the habitat; your butterflies may fall in and drown.

6. Set your butterflies free!

Observe the wonder of your butterflies for a few precious days - then set them free! Remember, butterflies are important members of our environment.



Here's what to do:

- Release your butterflies within a week after emergence.
- Be sure **daytime** temperatures are above 55 degrees.
- Open the habitat carefully.
- Watch your butterflies fly away. Butterflies often land on little hands and faces before taking flight!

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It's Time To Grow!

Welcome to the fascinating life cycle of the Painted Lady Butterfly!

Visit [InsectLore.com](https://www.insectlore.com) for Butterfly FAQs, Caterpillar Refills, Instructional Videos, and more!

WARNING:
CHOKING HAZARD-Small parts.
Not for Children under 3 years.

Caterpillar Quick Guide



1. Grow your caterpillars

Your caterpillars arrive with all the nutritious food they need to grow into healthy butterflies. They may seem tiny and inactive at first, **BUT PLEASE GIVE THEM 48 HOURS TO ACCLIMATE TO THEIR NEW SURROUNDINGS.** Soon your caterpillars will be eating and growing before your very eyes!



Here's what to do:

- Handle the Cup of Caterpillars™ gently.
- Place the cup upright, indoors, and away from sunlight or drafts.
- Keep the lid on the cup.
- Do not touch your caterpillars.
- Maintain a temperature of 68 to 75 degrees.
- Watch carefully! Your caterpillars will shed their exoskeletons several times as they grow!

2. See them become chrysalides

After 7 to 10 days, your caterpillars will climb to the top of the cup and attach themselves to the underside of the lid. There they will hang in a “J” shape, shed their exoskeletons one last time, and harden into chrysalides.



Here's what to do:

- Wait 3 days for your caterpillars to fully harden into chrysalides.
- Do not handle the cup during this important time.
- Remember, an amazing transformation is taking place inside!
- Prepare your butterfly habitat.

3. Move your chrysalides to the butterfly habitat



Here's what to do:

Step 1. Gently remove the lid with the hanging chrysalides from the Cup of Caterpillars™.

Step 2. Gently remove any silk and frass surrounding the chrysalides with a cotton swab.

Step 3. Carefully insert the lid sideways into the slot in the Chrysalis Station™ log. Then, place the Chrysalis Station™ log in the butterfly habitat.

4. Watch the birth of your butterflies!

After 7 - 10 days, your painted lady butterflies will emerge from the chrysalides. At first the butterflies' wings will be soft and crumpled. The butterflies will slowly stretch and strengthen their wings. They may also exude a few small red drops of meconium after they emerge. This is normal - meconium is the leftover material the butterfly does not need to complete metamorphosis.



Here's what to do:

- Do not disturb the habitat while your butterflies are emerging.
- Do not touch the newly emerged butterflies.
- Wait 2 or 3 hours (to allow your butterflies' wings to dry and harden) before feeding.

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS ON BACK >