Grades: K-4

Objectives: Students will create their own beautiful butterfly using symmetry painting.

Sources: The Artful Parent
HOW TO PAINT A BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLY
from The Artful Parent

INSTRUCTIONS
First, cut your paper into a butterfly shape. Fold your paper in half, then use the scissors to cut out a half butterfly, with the body along the fold. You can draw and cut your butterfly shape freehand or use a template (see attached).

MATERIALS
• Paper
• Scissors
• Tempera paint
• Small cups
• Spoons

Pour small amounts of tempera paint into cups and add a spoon to each cup. You can also mix your colors until you have the perfect assortment of colors to create your butterfly paintings.
Use the spoon to add drops of paint to one side of your butterfly paper.

Fold paper. Fold the other half of the paper over the paint drops to create a paint sandwich. Press, smush, and rub with your hands. Finally, open the paper to reveal your symmetrical butterfly painting!

Variations and Ideas
- Add details to your butterflies after the paint dries. For example, you could draw details or faces over the dry paint with markers. Or glue googly eyes on the faces.
- You can also make regular symmetry paintings (on rectangular paper), then cut the butterflies out after the paintings dry.
- Tack a kaleidoscope of butterflies onto the wall together (that’s what a group of butterflies is called!) or string them into a butterfly bunting.
