

# How to Raise Monarch Butterflies

# **Caring for Monarch Eggs:**

Step 1: Wash your hands.

Step 2: Place a slightly moist paper towel in the bottom of a clean cage. Use only plain unscented paper towels.

Step 3: Place the entire leaf with egg on the paper towel and spritz with plain water.

Step 4: Close lid and wait for the caterpillars to hatch.

Spritz leaves a little everyday until caterpillars emerge from the egg.

## **Caring for Monarch Caterpillars:**

Step 1: Wash your hands.

Step 2: Pick milkweed leaves from the garden and rinse well with cold water.

Step 3: Carefully remove the old leaves with the caterpillars on them, and place on a paper towel.

Step 4: Dump the poops and the old paper towel into the garbage.

Step 5: Place a new paper towel into the bottom of the cage. Use only plain unscented paper towels.

Step 6: Put the caterpillars back into the cage along with the new leaves and close the lid.

Do this everyday until the caterpillars make their chrysalis.

Keep caterpillars of similar sizes together in a cage.

### **Caring for the Monarch Chrysalis:**

Step 1: Wash your hands.

Step 2: Remove any old leaves, poops, and the dirty paper towel from the cage.

Step 3: Place a new paper towel on the bottom of the cage, and tape one to the side to allow the butterfly to climb up to the top of the cage if it falls.

Step 4: Allow the chrysalis to hang undisturbed from the top of the cage, about 10-14 days.

### **Releasing your Monarch Butterfly:**

Step 1: Allow the butterfly to dry inside the cage. About 3-4 hours.

When it begins moving around, it's a good indication that its ready to be released.

Step 2: Bring the cage outside with the butterfly inside and gently remove the lid and release your butterfly.

