Butterflies and moths are both members of the insect order Lepidoptera, which means “scaly wings.” They both live as caterpillars and undergo complete metamorphosis to become winged adults. Though similar, some important differences distinguish them:

**BUTTERFLY OR MOTH?**

- **Wings**: Butterflies' wings are often brightly colored, often with club-like tips. Moths’ wings are usually more subdued, often with tapered, sometimes feathery tips.
- **Resting Wings**: Butterflies often hold their wings upright or open. Moths typically fold their wings over their backs.
- **Active Wings**: Butterflies are often brightly colored, often with club-like tips. Moths’ wings are usually more subdued, often with tapered, sometimes feathery tips.
- **Color**: Butterflies often have bright colors, while moths are often drab.
- **Antennae**: Butterflies’ antennae are often thin and thread-like, while moths’ antennae can be club-like or feathery.

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**COMMON WOOD NYMPH**

*Cercyonis pegala*  
Wingspan: 1 1/4 - 3"  
You probably know this moth better in its larval state: the fuzzy black-and-orange woolly bear caterpillar. The caterpillar finds dark, sheltered places to hibernate during the winter and emerge in spring to spin their cocoons. Adult moths are orange and wings have sparse black spot. Paler hind wings may have a rosy tint in females.

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**ISABELLA TIGER MOTH**

*Pyrrharctia isabella*  
Wingspan: 1 1/4 - 1 1/2"  
You probably know this moth better in its larval state: the fuzzy black-and-orange woolly bear caterpillar. The caterpillar finds dark, sheltered places to hibernate during the winter and emerge in spring to spin their cocoons. Adult moths are orange and wings have sparse black spotting. Paler hind wings may have a rosy tint in females.

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**MORNING GLORY PLUME MOTH**

*Emmelina monodactyla*  
Wingspan: 1 1/4 - 1 1/2"  
In Instead of having membranes connected by a network of tubular veins, the wings of this unusual moth consist of feathery plumes. The plumes are hidden when the moth is at rest, making it resemble a “T.” Look for it in waste areas, gardens, and near homes.

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**RED-SHOULDERED CTENUCHA MOTH**

*Ctenucha rubroscapus*  
Wingspan: 1 1/4 - 1 1/2"  
This European species was released in Oregon to help control tansy ragwort, an exotic noxious weed. The moth’s caterpillar feed on the leaves of the ragwort, which are highly toxic to livestock and deer. Bright coloration lets predators know that the caterpillar’s taste is bad as a result of feeding on poisonous plants. Adult moths, with their bold black and red coloring, are easy to identify.

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**CINNABAR MOTH**

*Tyria jacobaeae*  
Wingspan: 1 1/4 - 1 1/2"  
This European species was released in Oregon to help control tansy ragwort, an exotic noxious weed. The moth’s caterpillar feed on the leaves of the ragwort, which are highly toxic to livestock and deer. Bright coloration lets predators know that the caterpillar’s taste is bad as a result of feeding on poisonous plants. Adult moths, with their bold black and red coloring, are easy to identify.

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**BRING BACK THE POLLINATORS!**

Butterflies are important pollinators for many kinds of plants. Here are two ways you can help pollinators thrive:

- **Grow pollinator-friendly flowers, trees, and shrubs with overlapping bloom times to support pollinators from spring through fall.**
- **Avoid insecticides as they can be especially harmful to butterflies and other pollinators.**

For more information:

- [www.bringbackthepollinators.org](http://www.bringbackthepollinators.org)
- [www.portlandoregon.gov/parks](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks)

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**BROCHURE DESIGN, ILLUSTRATIONS, AND ICONS BY MATT STRIEND, NEWLEAF DESIGN. BUTTERFLY AND MOTH DESCRIPTIONS WRITTEN BY MATT STRIEND.**
WOODLAND SKIPPER
Ochlodes sylvanoides
Wingspan: 1 - 11/4”

PAINTED LADY
Vanessa cardui
Wingspan: 2 - 27/8”

RED ADMIRAL
Vanessa atalanta
Wingspan: 13/4 - 3”

EASTERN TAILED-BLUE
Cupido comyntas
*Wingspan: 7/8 - 11/8”

Look for yellow wings with prominent black margins and red “eye spots” near the tails. The black “pupils” are centered in the spots and not connected to the hindwing margins. A swallowtail’s characteristic hindwing tails are a defense against a bird looking for its next meal: they detach easily if grabbed by a beak. Anise Swallowtails can be found in many open areas like vacant lots and fields as well as along roads and in gardens.

You may spot this small butterfly in a woodland, field, or garden, perched on a flower and sipping nectar. Upper sides are orange with toothed brown borders along wing margins. Males have elongated black spots (stigmata) on three forewings. Undersides are orange to yellowish-brown with lighter spots.

You might spot this small butterfly in a woodland, field, or garden, perched on a flower and sipping nectar. Upper sides are orange with toothed brown borders along wing margins. Males have elongated black spots (stigmata) on three forewings. Undersides are orange to yellowish-brown with lighter spots.

Look for narrow tails trailing from each hindwing and orange spots along the hindwing margins. Males are indescent blue with black wing margins; the smaller females are darker and turn brown during summer. Most common in the eastern U.S., they can also be found here in open, sunny places.

These common butterflies in the woods, flitting around wet spots along paths. The tops are iridescent blue and females have black along the forewing margins. Undersides are pale bluish-gray with distinctive ‘chevron’ markings along the wing edges. Azures are among the first butterflies to appear in spring.

Look for this showy butterfly in open areas like fields and gardens. They are strongly patterned overall with orange and black and have prominent white markings on their forewings. Cardui means “of thistles,” a reference to the plants on which their spiny caterpillars feed. In some years, Painted Ladies migrate north by the billions from warmer areas in the southern U.S.

This butterfly is found throughout the northern hemisphere but is not common locally. To spot one, look in moist areas: along streams and in shady woods, as well as in parks, gardens, and other well-watered areas. The upperside is dark brown to black with red-orange bands. White marks on the forewings are similar to those of the Painted Lady. Adult Red Admirals hibernate during winter in mild climates like Portland’s.

Look for this common yellowish-orange butterfly in grassy, open areas like fields and meadows. Undersides of the forewings are brownish-orange or ochre. Butterfly east of the Cascade Range have prominent underwing eye spots that local ringlets lack. Males patrol the tops of grasses in a bobbing flight, looking for mates.

Look for this small butterfly in a woodland, field, or garden, perched on a flower and sipping nectar. Upper sides are orange with toothed brown borders along wing margins. Males have elongated black spots (stigmata) on three forewings. Undersides are orange to yellowish-brown with lighter spots.

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BUTTERFLIES OF THE U.S. AND CANADA

ANISE SWALLOWTAIL
Papilio zelicaon
Wingspan: 21/2-3”

WESTERN TIGER SWALLOWTAIL
Papilio rutulus
Wingspan: 21/2 - 31/2”

SPRING AZURE
Celastrina ladon
Wingspan: 7/8 - 1”

RED ADMIRAL
Vanessa atalanta
Wingspan: 1 1/4 - 3”

EASTERN TAILED-BLUE
Cupido comyntas
Wingspan: 7/8 - 11/8”

Look for narrow tails trailing from each hindwing and orange spots along the hindwing margins. Males are indescent blue with black wing margins; the smaller females are darker and turn brown during summer. Most common in the eastern U.S., they can also be found here in open, sunny places.

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