

Five in a Row Lesson Plan: Wavy Wings & the Butterfly Garden

Day 1 - Language Arts: Magical Storytelling & Character Study

Focus: Narrative elements, vocabulary, and character traits

- Read the story aloud together.
- Discuss:
 - What makes Wavy Wings special?
 - Identify setting, problem, solution, and main characters.
 - Vocabulary: Highlight words like shimmering, twirled, meadow, sparkle.
- Activity:
 - Retell the story in your own words or act it out with puppets.
 - Write or dictate a magical helper story using your own imagination.

Day 2 - Social Studies / Geography: Exploring Community & Nature

Focus: Community roles, nature appreciation, and map reading

- Discuss:
 - How does Wavy Wings help her community (butterflies)?
 - What does it mean to be part of a community or garden?
- Activity:
 - Draw a simple map of Wavy Wings' world - meadow, garden, path home.
 - Compare to your own neighborhood or local park.

Day 3 - Science: Butterfly Life Cycle & Garden Needs

Focus: Life science and environmental awareness

- Teach the butterfly life cycle: egg, caterpillar, chrysalis, butterfly.
- Discuss what plants and insects need to thrive.
- Activity:
 - Create a butterfly life cycle wheel or use pasta for a 3D version.
 - Observe a plant or flower outside and sketch its parts.

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Day 4 - Art: Create a Magical Butterfly Garden

Focus: Artistic expression and creativity

- Activity:
- Make a butterfly garden collage with paper, glitter, and found nature items.
- Paint or draw Wavy Wings twirling in the meadow.
- Optional:
- Make wings out of cardboard and decorate with your child's favorite colors.

Day 5 - Math / Applied Learning: Movement, Counting, and Kindness

Focus: Math in action, movement, and real-life learning

- Activity:
- Count and sort paper butterflies by color or size.
- Create a dance sequence: spin 3 times, flap 5 times, tiptoe 2 times.
- Role-play helping friends using "Kindness Butterflies" with kind messages.
- Bonus: Visit a local garden or park and look for real butterflies!

Optional Activities

- Field Trip: Visit a local butterfly conservatory or garden.
- Sensory Play: Fill a bin with flower petals, butterfly toys, grass, and stones.
- Book Basket: Include related books like:
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle
- Waiting for Wings by Lois Ehlert
- Butterfly Park by Elly MacKay
- Bonus Movement: Use scarves or wings during dance time to enhance play.
- Puppet Theater: Reenact the story with butterfly and Wavy Wings puppets.
- Garden Observation: Track changes in a real garden over the week (growth, insects, weather).

Wavy Wings Reading Guide – For Parents & Educators

Use this guide to enrich your storytime with thoughtful questions, creative connections, and emotional learning opportunities. Designed for ages 3–7, perfect for home, classroom, or library use.

Themes to Explore

- Self-Worth & Inner Strength
- Courage in the Face of Uncertainty
- Emotional Awareness
- Nature & Transformation
- Friendship & Kindness

Before Reading Prompts

- Look at the cover. What do you think the story is about?
- What does the title 'Wavy Wings & the Butterfly Garden' make you feel or imagine?
- Have you ever felt like you lost something important inside you?

During Reading Prompts

- How do you think Wavy Wings is feeling right now?
- Why do you think the garden lost its sparkle?
- What do you notice about the butterflies when the magic returns?

After Reading Discussion Questions

- What helped Wavy Wings feel brave again?
- What does it mean that 'the magic was inside her all along'?
- Can you think of a time when you helped someone feel better?
- What would you say to someone who feels like they lost their spark?

Vocabulary to Explore

- glow
- shimmer
- sparkle
- gentle
- twirl
- courage
- magic
- metamorphosis
- chrysalis
- pollinate
- garden
- affirmation

Page 2 – Extension Activities for Wavy Wings & the Butterfly Garden

Creative Activities

- Draw your own magical butterfly
- Create a “Wavy Wings” affirmation card – write: “I shine when I...”
- Make a butterfly garden – with paper crafts or a real plant pot

Nature Connections

- Take a walk and find 3 things that sparkle or glow
- Watch for butterflies, bees, or bugs and try to describe how they move

Emotional Exploration

- Make a “Spark Journal” – draw or write about things that make you feel strong inside
- Role play with stuffed animals – help a toy find its magic again through kindness

Classroom or At-Home Tip:

Let kids take the lead! These activities are meant to encourage creativity, build confidence, and open the door to gentle conversations about emotions and inner strength.