



How to Make a Butterfly Feeder

There are 561 known butterfly species in the United States and Canada, all of which are pollinators. You can invite them to your garden by providing a butterfly feeder.

For this project you will need:

1. A Mason jar/ or any jar that has a tight lid
2. Kitchen Sponge
3. Hammer and nail
4. Heavy duty string
5. Sugar
6. Scissors
7. Sauce pan

Step 1: Mixing Butterfly food

Prepare Butterfly food by mixing 9 parts water+1 part sugar.

You measure this by using tablespoons. Mix the sugar water in saucepan on stove being careful to not use too much sugar, and completely dissolve the sugar. DO NOT add any food coloring. You can attract butterflies with colorful beads or stickers on the jar.

Step 2: Make a small hole in the lid of the jar

Using the nail and hammer, punch a small hole in the lid. A piece of sponge will need to fit snugly in the hole so keep it small. You can always make it bigger if necessary.

Step 3: Place a piece of sponge in the hole

Cut a inch strip from your sponge, then pull it through the hole in the lid so that the sponge is sticking out about halfway, you will want the sponge to be a tight fit. When the jar is full of food the sponge must be jar with saturated but not dripping. Test your sponge by filling up the jar turning it upside down. If it drips you will need to cut the sponge larger.

Step 4: Decorate your feeder

Before you tie any string on the jar, decorate it with bright colored stickers, washi tape, or construction paper. The bright colors imitate the real flowers and helps entice the Butterfly to the feeder.



Step 5: Use string to make the hanger

Flip the jar upside down. Tie some string around the neck of the jar, slightly below the lid. Measure two more lengths of string approximately 2 feet long. Tie one end around the string at the neck, and the other end of the string on the opposite side of the string around the neck. Tie the second length of string in the same way, making a second loop, perpendicular to the first.

Step 6: Secure the string

Place a final piece of string through your two remaining loops and pull them together. Your jar should hang evenly. If it does fill your jar with the cooled sugar water and screw the lid on tight. Before you hang the feeder tip the jar upside down to make sure there are no leaks.

That's it! You can now hang your feeder outside. It will work best if you hang it about six inches taller than the tallest flower. This way it will be more visible to the Butterflies.