



Parent Resources for Migration

Students will be introduced to seasonal migration and investigate the life cycle of the Monarch Butterfly.

Goals of this lesson:

- Learn the definition of **migration**, the seasonal movement of animals from one area to another to follow the food.
- Introduce the life cycle of the butterfly, from egg to caterpillar, to chrysalis, to adult.

For additional information, copy and paste these links into your browser:

Monarch Butterfly video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QpffQtKN-gk>

Monarch Butterfly life cycle and Milkweed video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jsTg-rO8JrM>

Order free seeds from the National Park Service:

<https://altnps.org/seed-packs>

Purchase a butterfly growing kit:

<https://www.amazon.com/Insect-Lore-Butterfly-Growing-Kit/dp/B00000ISC5>

Follow the Food

Some animals move from one area to another when the season changes. That movement is called **migration**. Animals migrate to follow the food.

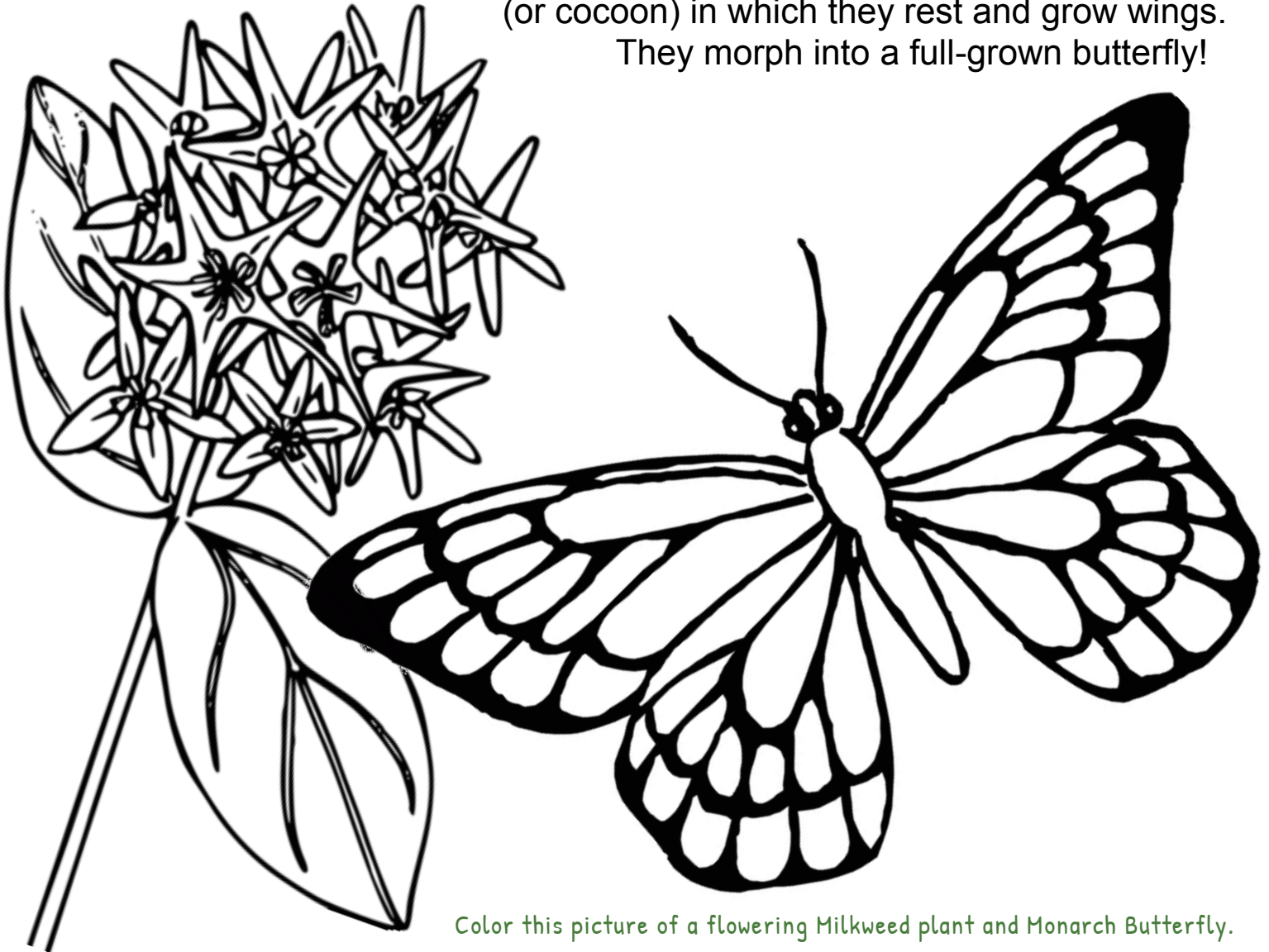
This Summer, you might see a Monarch Butterfly in the garden. Monarch Butterflies live around here in the hot weather, and **migrate** to Florida or Mexico when the temperature starts to fall. Some Monarch Butterflies fly as far as 3,000 miles to reach their Winter home.

Monarch Butterflies only lay their eggs on the leaves of the Milkweed plant.

When the eggs hatch, the baby caterpillars (or larva) munch on the leaves of the Milkweed, which is the only food that they will eat.

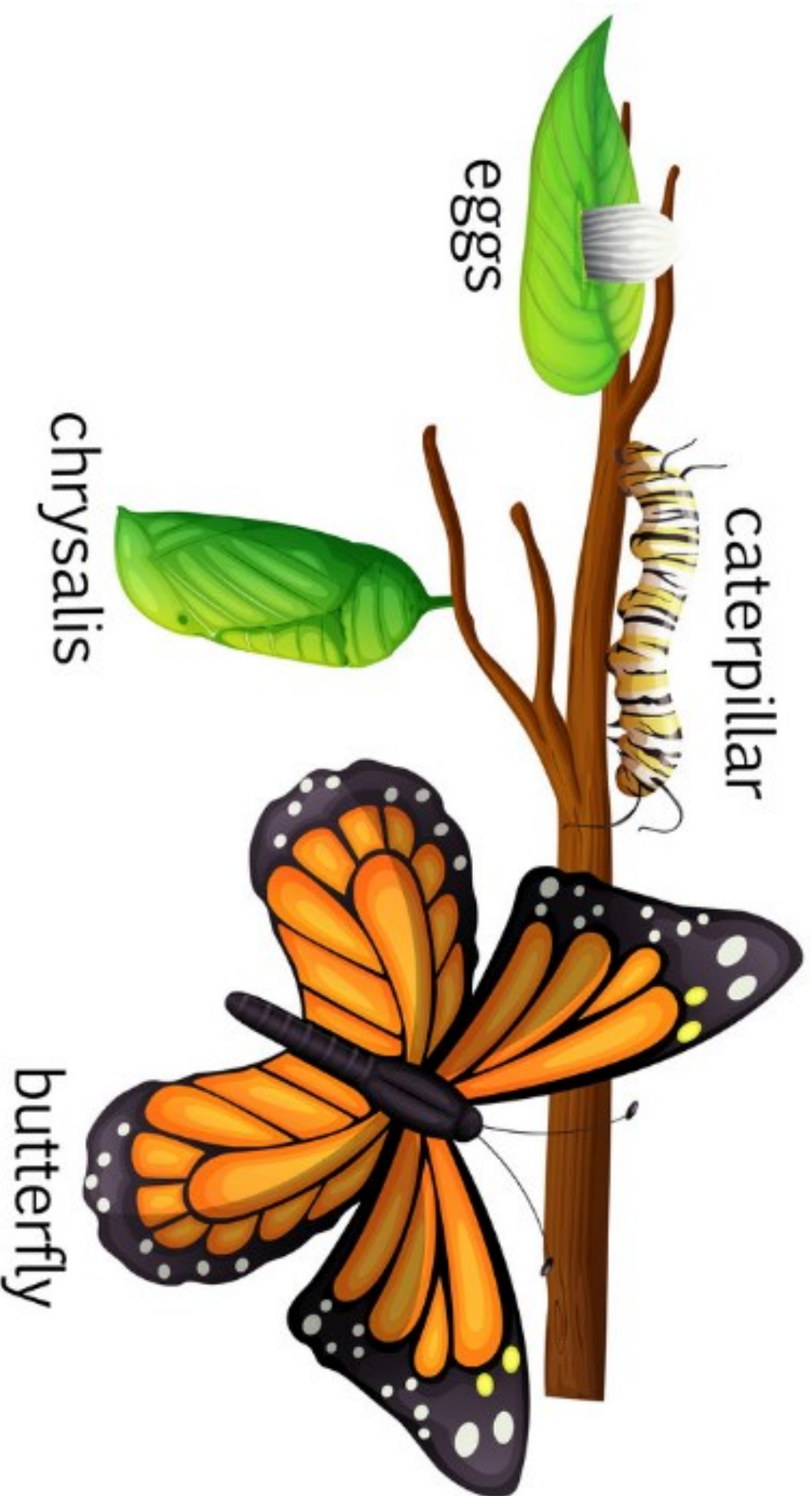
The caterpillars eat and grow, then make a chrysalis (or cocoon) in which they rest and grow wings.

They morph into a full-grown butterfly!



Color this picture of a flowering Milkweed plant and Monarch Butterfly.

Monarch Butterfly Life Cycle



eggs

caterpillar

chrysalis

butterfly