



Butterflies in Space

Student Science Poster Competition

Data collection for the 2009 Butterflies in Space Investigation has come to a close. The Painted Lady larvae, carried to the International Space Station by the Space Shuttle Atlantis (STS-129), successfully completed their life cycles. Many student teams in classrooms across the country are summarizing their ground control investigations and comparing the results with images and video of the flight insects. Other groups are just now completing their experiments, or are planning to conduct the ground-based portions of their experiments in January.

To highlight this student research, the National Space Biomedical Research Institute and the Center for Educational Outreach at Baylor College of Medicine are pleased to announce a national student science poster competition. Like professional scientists developing poster presentations, individual students, student teams, or entire classes are invited to create posters detailing their research questions, observations and conclusions. Winning entries will receive prizes and national recognition on the BioEd Online or K8 Science websites. *The top ten posters from both the individual/small team and large team/full class categories will be featured on the Butterflies in Space mission page of both websites.*

WHO MAY ENTER

- Individual students and student teams in grades 2–8 from U.S. elementary and middle schools, informal educational institutions such as science museums, and home schools are eligible to participate.
- Projects will compete in one of two categories.
 1. Individual/small group (up to four students)
 2. Class/large group (five or more students)

PRIZES

- **First Place** (one winner from each group): \$500 voucher for classroom science supplies; certificate from the National Space Biomedical Research Institute for each author and teacher; and project featured on front page of BioEd Online or K8 Science websites.
- **Second Place** (one winner from each group): \$250 voucher for classroom science supplies; certificate from the National Space Biomedical Research Institute for each author and teacher; and project featured on Butterflies in Space mission page on BioEdOnline or K8 Science.
- **Honorable Mention** (eight winners from each group): certificate from the National Space Biomedical Research Institute for each author and teacher; and project listed on Butterflies in Space mission page on BioEdOnline or K8 Science.

ENTRIES ARE DUE BY FEBRUARY 15, 2010

Awards will be announced by March 22, 2010.

CONTEST RULES

1. Each individual or each team is permitted only one entry.
2. Entries may present investigations based solely on the Space Butterfly photo archive (see <http://www.bioedonline.org>) and other information available from the International Space Station; or they may combine information from the space-based experiment with classroom experiments conducted on Earth.

3. Entries must be submitted electronically, as a PowerPoint® file to the following email address: butterflies@bcm.edu.
4. Entries must use the PowerPoint template provided here. This template is formatted as if it were a single 40-inch by 32-inch poster. Download the pre-formatted poster template from http://www.bioedonline.org/space/STS_Mission_129.cfm.
5. The entire poster file, including photographs and figures, must be less than 5 megabytes in size. Files that are too large will be returned automatically without review.
6. Posters must include the following sections.
 - **Title**
 - **Name of Author(s), School or Institution, City, State**
 - **Research Question and Significance** (background information that explains why the question is important or was selected)
 - **Methods**
 - **Results**
 - **Discussion of Results and Conclusions**
 - **Acknowledgements**

EMAIL QUESTIONS TO: butterflies@bcm.edu

JUDGING

Posters will be judged on the following criteria.

Scientific Merit: Innovativeness and significance of the research question and background information

Methods: Quality of description of data collection methods, and appropriateness of methods used

Results and Conclusions: Completeness, clarity and significance of results and conclusions

Originality: Quality of original scientific work conducted by the student or team; completeness of appropriate credit for quotations or data from other sources

Presentation and organization: Clarity and accuracy of information; effectiveness of layout, format and labels (including figures, tables and graphs); grammatical and spelling correctness