

# Go butterfly spotting

Join the Big Butterfly Count 2023 and help save your local flying insects.

## What you need

- Handy butterfly ID chart (or use the pictures on this page to get started)
- A smartphone (remember to ask permission to use one)

## How does it work?

Butterflies are an important part of natural environments. They pollinate plants and are themselves food for other animals. The Big Butterfly Count allows scientists to see where butterflies are thriving, and find ways to save them in areas where they aren't doing as well. To find out more about butterflies go to [butterfly-conservation.org](https://butterfly-conservation.org). You could snap a picture of a pretty butterfly and enter it into our Scavenger Hunt photo contest (see page 10).



**1** Ask a grown up to download the free Big Butterfly Count app from the Apple or Android app store. Once you've done this, step outside and find a nice open space with lots of flowers to start counting butterflies.

**2** Between 14 July and 6 August on a bright and sunny day, spend around 15 minutes in your chosen outside space and watch for butterflies. Note down the colour and shape of the insect, then compare with the common UK species below.

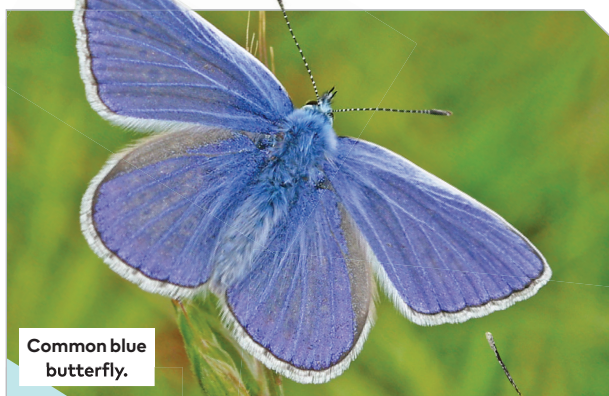
**3** Go to the Big Butterfly Count app on your phone to record the species you find. You can also head to [bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org](https://bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org) to see what species are often present in your local area.

## Five UK species

Look out for these five common species of butterfly, which can be found across the UK.



**BIG BUTTERFLY COUNT**  
15 JULY - 7 AUGUST 2023



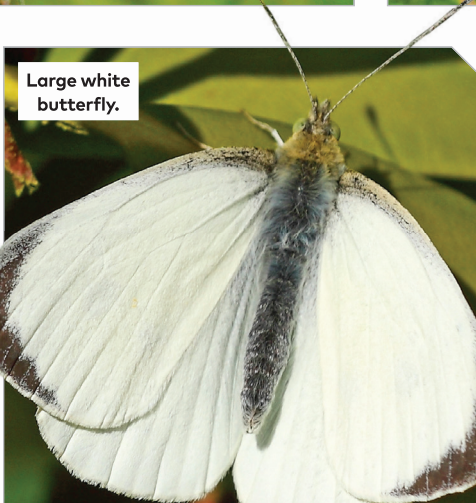
Common blue butterfly.



Painted lady butterfly.



Brimstone.



Large white butterfly.



Marbled white.