



# The Symbolic Migration Leader Packet 2022-2023



**Send an Ambassador Monarch to Mexico!**  
The Symbolic Migration unites youth across North America  
through the migration of ambassador butterflies.

*The Symbolic Migration is a partnership project between Journey North, a program of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Arboretum, and Monarchs Across Georgia, a committee of the Environmental Education Alliance, a 501(c) (3) organization.*

# Welcome to the Symbolic Migration

Join us for the 27th annual "Symbolic Monarch Migration" with youth from across North America! **Families, home schools, nature centers, youth groups, and classrooms are welcome to participate.** In the fall of 2021, twenty-eight thousand youth in the United States and Canada created symbolic butterflies and sent them to Mexico for the winter. Students in schools near the Mexican monarch sanctuaries protected the butterflies and sent them north in the spring of 2022. These symbolic butterflies build bridges of communication between students in Mexico, the U.S., and Canada. United by the monarch butterfly, children across North America learn authentic lessons of conservation, cooperation, and ambassadorship.

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## Notes

### Overall Quality

Each butterfly should represent the quality and beauty of a real monarch. Take time and care. Your Ambassador Butterfly will become your gift to a student in Mexico.

### Individual Life-Sized Butterflies

Each member of your group will make an individual monarch (EACH ONE labeled with their **first name, school/group/family, town, state/province, country, and leader's name and email**). Your group will receive life-sized butterflies next spring made by participants across North America so you can continue the cycle of friendship and stewardship.

NOTE: This project reflects the real migration. It is a long journey and not all migrating butterflies make it. This is a group project and a 1:1 ratio of returning life-sized monarch butterflies cannot be guaranteed.

### Mailing Address

Mail Ambassador Butterfly packet to: Send a Monarch to Mexico! c/o Symbolic Migration, 1497 Candleberry Court SW, Lilburn, GA 30047 USA

**DO NOT MAIL PAYMENTS TO THIS ADDRESS.**

**Contact Symbolic Migration** (Monarchs Across Georgia Committee, Environmental Education Alliance)

[symbolic-migration@eealliance.org](mailto:symbolic-migration@eealliance.org)

# Step-By-Step Overview

**Postmark deadline: October 7, 2022**

## Step 1: Purchase Your Passenger Ticket & Print Email Confirmation

To cover the costs of this important educational project, participants must buy a **\$15 "Passenger Ticket" for each Ambassador Butterfly packet submitted.** *Keep in mind that one Ambassador reaches one student in Mexico.* These funds will support school visits in Mexico to deliver butterflies and provide conservation education. Purchases are made through the Environmental Education Alliance's secure website at this link <https://bit.ly/PassengerTicket2022> with credit/debit cards (Discover, Mastercard, or Visa) or mailed checks (USA banks only). An unlimited number of Passenger Tickets can be accommodated in one transaction if the return mailing address is the same for all groups.



## Step 2: Print Checklist

Print the step-by-step checklist on page 8. It includes the address to which your Ambassador Butterfly and enclosures must be mailed and other important information. Use it as your check-off guide.



## Step 3: Make Your Ambassador Butterfly & Enclosures

Follow the detailed instructions on page 4. Members of your group will collaborate to make an Ambassador Butterfly that will travel to Mexico. This butterfly will carry a cluster of life-sized monarchs made by each member of the group, the "Hello Friends/Hola Amigos" Letter, and your Passenger Ticket. Optionally, a group photo, a postcard, or a one-page note written in Spanish can be included. Secure all enclosures safely inside your Ambassador Butterfly. Optionally, take a photo of your Ambassador Butterfly to upload when you report to the Participant Map in Step 5 (below).



## Step 4: Pack & Mail Your Envelope

Pack your Ambassador Butterfly, cluster of life-sized butterflies, "Hello Friends/Hola Amigos" Letter, Passenger Ticket, and optional items into an envelope. **NO RETURN ENVELOPE IS NECESSARY.** Address the envelope to Send a Monarch to Mexico! c/o Symbolic Migration, 1497 Candleberry Court SW, Lilburn, GA 30047 USA. Your completed packet must have the correct postage and be postmarked no later than October 7, 2022.



## Step 5: Report to Journey North's Symbolic Migration Participant Map

If you are not already registered with Journey North, you will need to first register. Complete directions for this procedure are at this link <https://journeynorth.org/symbolic-migration/resources/article/07282020-how-register-and-submit-sighting>. **Be sure to include the leader's name, school/group/family, town, and state/province and country in the "Comments" section.** Your report and uploaded photo will appear on this **List of Participants.**

<https://journeynorth.org/sightings/querylist.html?map=symbolic-monarch-participants&year=2022&season=fall>

Your location will appear on this **Participant Map.**

<https://maps.journeynorth.org/map/?year=2022&map=symbolic-monarch-sent>

Unfortunately, the map can only display one dot at each location, and clicking on the dot will only show one report (the most recent record reported). We suggest that if multiple groups are reporting from the same address, one leader should act as a liaison, and a photo collage of all the Ambassador Butterflies be uploaded from that address. All individual reports and photos will appear on the **List of Participants.**



# Make Your Ambassador Butterfly & Enclosures

## **An Ambassador Butterfly is made from a letter-sized file folder.**

Transform a **letter-sized file folder** into a beautiful butterfly! Brainstorm ways to design, build, and decorate a sturdy butterfly that will be able to travel to Mexico. Decorate your butterfly in ways that represent your class as a monarch ambassador. This butterfly will remain in Mexico as your gift to the student that receives it. Examples of Ambassador Butterflies can be viewed at <https://www.ealliance.org/ambassador-examples.html>.

### **Please do not use glitter or attach bulky materials to the folder!**

The leader's name, school/group/family name, and full address must be clearly written on your Ambassador Butterfly. Make sure that this address matches the address that you submitted online when you purchased your Passenger Ticket.

## **Enclosures for your Ambassador Butterfly:**

- **A Cluster of Life-sized Monarch Butterflies**

Each member of your group creates one colorful, life-sized monarch (preferably from the template on page 5). This template is also available electronically as a Google Doc at [Life-Sized Butterfly Template](#), giving you the ability to enter contact information before printing, and ensuring legibility.

**The artist's first name, school/group/family name, city, state/province, country, and leader's name and email** are included on each life-sized monarch. (Preprinted address labels can also be used.) Form a cluster by putting all of the life-sized monarchs into **one plastic sandwich- or quart-sized Ziploc bag** and placing it inside the Ambassador Butterfly folder.

- **The "Hello Friends/Hola Amigos" Letter**

Print one copy of the "Hello Friends/Hola Amigos" Letter (page 6 or electronically as a pdf at [Hola Amigos Letter](#)). Mark the map with an X to show where you live and draw an arrow to show the migration route to Mexico. Use Google Maps to measure the distance in kilometers from your location to Angangueo, Michoacan, Mexico, and fill in the blanks with your town, state/province, and country. Complete the Letter in both Spanish and English. *It's exactly the same information in both languages!* Place this Letter inside your Ambassador Butterfly folder.

- **Group Photo, Postcard, or a Single-page Note Written in Spanish**

**(Optional)** As an option, you can include a group photo, enclose a postcard, or a one-page note written in Spanish from your group. Place these items inside your Ambassador Butterfly folder. **Please DO NOT include stickers, food items, or other gifts.**

- **Your "Passenger Ticket"**

Print a copy of the email confirmation of the online payment, and place it inside your Ambassador Butterfly folder.



Artist's First Name:

School/Family/Group:

City:

State/Province, Country:

Leader's Name:

Leader's email:



Artist's First Name:

School/Family/Group:

City:

State/Province, Country:

Leader's Name:

Leader's email:



Artist's First Name:

School/Family/Group:

City:

State/Province, Country:

Leader's Name:

Leader's email:



Artist's First Name:

School/Family/Group:

City:

State/Province, Country:

Leader's Name:

Leader's email:



**Hello Friends!**

We made this symbolic monarch for you in  
(town) \_\_\_\_\_,  
(state/ province) \_\_\_\_\_,  
(country) \_\_\_\_\_. **We have marked the  
map with an X to show where we live and drawn an  
arrow to show the migration route.**

This butterfly flew \_\_\_\_\_ kilometers to greet you.

**¡Hola Amigos!**

Hicimos esta monarca simbólica para Uds. en  
(pueblo) \_\_\_\_\_,  
(estado/ provincia) \_\_\_\_\_,  
(país) \_\_\_\_\_. **Hemos marcado el mapa con  
una X para mostrar dónde vivimos y una flecha que  
muestra la ruta de migración.**

Esta mariposa voló \_\_\_\_\_ kilómetros para saludarte.



# Follow Your Ambassador Butterfly

Sending your Ambassador Butterfly to Mexico is the first step of a year-long study and celebration. The project continues online throughout the school year. Here's the project timeline. Join in the fun!

## Timeline: 2022-2023

### Before October 7, 2022

- **Introduce Symbolic Migration (Activities #1-6)**  
<https://journeynorth.org/symbolic-migration/resources/teaching/07212020-participate-symbolic-migration-project>
- **Follow the directions in this packet and mail your Ambassador Butterfly and enclosures by the postmark deadline: October 7, 2022.**
- **Report to Journey North's Symbolic Migration Participant Map.** Be sure to include the leader's name, school/group/family, town, state/province, and country in the "Comments" section. Upload a photo of your Ambassador Butterfly (option):  
<https://maps.journeynorth.org/map/?year=2022&map=symbolic-monarch-sent>

*Special Note: Unfortunately, the map can only display one dot at each location, and clicking on the dot will only show one report (the most recent record reported). We suggest that if multiple groups are reporting from the same address, one leader should act as a liaison, and a photo collage of all the Ambassador Butterflies be uploaded from that address. All individual reports and photos will appear on the List of Participants.*

### November 2022 - March 2023

- **Read about your Ambassador Butterfly in Mexico!** Use the search function at the top right of the page <https://symbolicmigration.org/> to locate your school/group/family or your town. Check back weekly! Deliveries begin mid-November and are usually completed by late February or early March.
- **Read monarch butterfly news from Mexico on Journey North:**  
<https://journeynorth.org/monarchs/news>
- **Enjoy Journey North's online resources** including "Life in the Monarch Butterfly Sanctuary Region of Mexico"  
<https://journeynorth.org/tm/symbolic/indexCurrent.html>

### April 2023 Continue the Cycle of Friendship

- **Watch your mailbox!** You will receive an envelope with a cluster of life-sized butterflies and a letter from a Mexican student in ample time for a Cinco de Mayo (May 5th) homecoming celebration.
- **VERY IMPORTANT: Report the arrival of individual life-sized butterflies by contacting leaders directly. Leader's emails should be on every life-sized butterfly.** Please make time for this important step! Children will be waiting to find out where their own butterflies landed.

# Symbolic Migration Checklist

**Postmark deadline: October 7, 2022**

- 1) \_\_\_ I understand that a \$15 participation fee in the form of a "Passenger Ticket" for each Ambassador Butterfly is required and has been purchased online at <https://bit.ly/PassengerTicket2022>, completing all of the information requested so that I can be contacted if necessary.
- 2) \_\_\_ I understand that our Ambassador Butterfly will be our gift to the student in Mexico that receives it. I also understand that we **will not** receive our own life-sized butterflies next spring but **will** receive life-sized butterflies made this fall by participants across North America, remembering that this is a group project and the return ratio may not be 1:1.
- 3) \_\_\_ I will report to Journey North's Symbolic Migration Participant Map when I mail our Ambassador Butterfly so that our school/group/family will appear on the map of international participants, including the leader's name, school/group/family, town, and state/province in the "Comments" section. Optionally, we will take a picture of our Ambassador Butterfly to include when we report to the Participant Map. I understand the limitations of the map as described in Step 5 on page 3 of this Leader Packet. Journey North's Symbolic Migration Participant Map: <https://maps.journeynorth.org/map/?year=2022&map=symbolic-monarch-sent>
- 4) \_\_\_ **Our Ambassador Butterfly and enclosures:**
  - Our Ambassador Butterfly was creatively made from a letter-sized file folder (as described on page 4). No glitter or bulky material was used in decoration. **The leader's name, school/group/family name, and full mailing address are written on this folder** and it matches the name and address entered online when purchasing the "Passenger Ticket."
  - It includes the following enclosures:
    - A cluster of life-sized monarchs, **each legibly labeled with the artist's first name, school/group/family name, town, state/province, country, leader's name, and email** is enclosed in a plastic sandwich- or quart-sized Ziploc bag to secure the contents. Only one butterfly per participant (preferably using the template on page 5).
    - Our completed "Hello Friends/Hola Amigos" Letter (page 6)
    - A copy of the email confirmation of the online purchase of your "Passenger Ticket"
    - Optionally, a class photo, postcard, or a single-page note written in Spanish
    - NO RETURN ENVELOPE is needed
- 5) \_\_\_ **Our Mailing Envelope:**
  - Contains ONLY ONE Ambassador Butterfly and its enclosures per envelope. Multiple envelopes can be boxed together.
  - Is postmarked by October 7, 2022 with the correct postage.
  - Is addressed to Send a Monarch to Mexico! c/o Symbolic Migration, 1497 Candleberry Court SW, Lilburn, GA 30047 USA



**Don't miss the trip!**  
**Read, print, and follow these instructions to ensure  
that your butterfly migrates!**