

Name _____

Beyond Beauty: The Purpose of Butterfly Wings

Short Answer Key

1. Aposematic coloration on butterfly wings serves to warn potential predators of the butterfly's toxicity or unpalatability.
2. Male butterflies use their wings in mate attraction by displaying elaborate patterns and performing flight dances to woo potential mates.
3. Butterfly wings help regulate body temperature by either absorbing or reflecting sunlight, depending on their coloration.
4. The veins and scales on butterfly wings contribute to flight efficiency by reducing air resistance and turbulence.
5. Butterfly wings help butterflies blend into their surroundings by mimicking the colors and patterns of leaves, flowers, or bark.

