



## **The Symbolic Migration *Teacher Packet* 2020-2021**



### **Send an Ambassador Monarch to Mexico!**

The Symbolic Migration unites children across North America through the migration of ambassador butterflies.

*The Symbolic Migration project 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 of Georgia, a 501(c)(3) organization. Journey North manages the interactive Symbolic Migration Participant Maps and hosts all educational materials on the Journey North website. Monarchs Across Georgia administers the program and is responsible for all fundraising.*

# Welcome to the Symbolic Migration

You're invited to participate in the 25th annual "Symbolic Monarch Butterfly Migration" with students from across North America. Over 25,000 students in the United States and Canada will create symbolic butterflies this fall and send them to Mexico for the winter. At the monarch sanctuaries in Mexico, children will protect the butterflies and send them north in the spring. The symbolic butterflies build bridges of communication between students in Mexico, the United States, and Canada. United by the monarch butterfly, children across North America learn authentic lessons of conservation, cooperation, and ambassadorship. Join the celebration!

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### Overall Quality

All Class Ambassador butterflies should represent the quality and beauty of a real monarch. Take time and care. This will become your class gift to a student in Mexico.

### Individual Butterflies

Each student will make an individual life-sized monarch (EACH ONE labeled with their **first name, school, town, state/province and teacher's email address**). Next spring, your class will receive a mixed collection of these life-sized butterflies (made by students in classrooms across North America) so you can continue the cycle of friendship and stewardship. This portion of the project reflects the real migration as monarchs return to places other than where they originated. It is a long journey and not all migrating butterflies make it. Remember, this is a class project so don't expect a 1:1 ratio of returning life-sized monarch butterflies.

### Virtual Participation

Because of the COVID19 pandemic, we are choosing to go with all virtual submissions this year. Instead of physically sending the Class Ambassador Butterfly and cluster of life-sized paper butterflies by postal mail, all butterflies and related paperwork will be photographed/ scanned and submitted electronically. All communications and sharing of Google Drive folders with photos/scans should be directed to [symbolic-migration@eealliance.org](mailto:symbolic-migration@eealliance.org).

# Step-By-Step Overview

**Submission Deadline: October 9, 2020**

## Step 1: Purchase Your Passenger Ticket

To cover the costs of this important educational project, participants must buy a **\$10 "Passenger Ticket"** for **each Class Ambassador Butterfly packet submitted**.

These funds will support [school visits](#) in Mexico to deliver printed copies of your electronic butterflies and provide conservation education. Purchases are made through our secure website at this link <https://bit.ly/SymbolicPassengerTicket2020> with credit/debit cards (Discover, Mastercard or Visa) or mailed checks (USA banks only).



## Step 2: Follow the Checklist

Follow the step-by-step checklist on page 8. Use it as your check-off guide.



## Step 3: Make Class Ambassador Butterfly and Enclosures

Follow the detailed instructions on pages 4-5. Students will collaborate to make a Class Butterfly that will travel to Mexico as an ambassador to represent your class. Complete a "Hello Friends/Hola Amigos" letter. Each student will create a life-sized monarch. A class photo or letter is optional.



## Step 4: Photograph or Scan, Label, Save, and Share Your Google Drive Folder

Photograph or scan your Class Ambassador Butterfly, each life-sized butterfly, the completed "Hello Friends/Hola Amigos" letter, your Passenger Ticket receipt, and class photo or note (optional). Label them according to the directions on pages 4-5 and save them to a labeled Google Drive folder. Share that folder with [symbolic-migration@eealliance.org](mailto:symbolic-migration@eealliance.org) no later than **October 9, 2020**. **We must have EDITOR permission on the folder.** Check with your Instructional Technology (IT) staff to ensure that permissions are set properly; otherwise we will not be able to access and sort the contents. *Please don't wait until the last minute. Technology will fail you!*



## Step 5: Report to the Fall Symbolic Migration Participant Map

If you are not already registered with Journey North, you will need to first register, i.e., create a user name and password, on Journey North <https://journeynorth.org/reg/> to report "sightings." Then log in on this page <https://journeynorth.org/sightings/> choosing Symbolic Monarch Participant in the drop-down menu on the bottom left side of the page. A reporting page will then come up where you can locate your school on the map, enter the date when Symbolic Monarchs were sent, upload a photo, and make comments. **Be sure to include the teacher's name, school, town, state/province in the "Comments" section.** *See special note to schools with multiple classrooms participating in Timeline on page 6.*



# Detailed Instructions

*We have made the difficult decision to take the Symbolic Migration program 'virtual' this year. With schools across North America facing challenges during this COVID-19 health crisis, we want to ensure that participation in this program does not endanger the safety or health of our students and teachers. We are asking that all participants in the United States and Canada send us their butterflies and other documents electronically. We will make paper copies to send to Mexico as the classrooms there, in most cases, do not have the luxury of Internet. As long as schools remain open in Mexico, Estela Romero will deliver Class Ambassador Butterflies to students along with a lesson on the benefits of trees. She will continue to post her school visits on [www.symbolicmigration.org](http://www.symbolicmigration.org). In addition, we are planning programs on a monthly basis that will be exclusively available to Symbolic Migration participants. These will be announced via email.*

**Need to contact us?** [symbolic-migration@eealliance.org](mailto:symbolic-migration@eealliance.org)

- **Create a Google Drive folder** and label it using this format: "TeacherLastName\_Class#\_School\_City\_State/Province"  
For example, "Snyder\_Class1\_HilltopCountyDay\_Sparta\_NJ" *Note that the Class# would simply be 1 for single class submissions but for teachers with multiple classes, this number would reflect individual classes and be numbered sequentially. Each class must be in a separate Google Drive folder.*
- **Purchase and Save the Receipt for your "Passenger Ticket".**  
Save your "Passenger Ticket," the email receipt of your online payment, label it using this format: "PassengerTicket\_TeacherLastName\_Class#\_School\_Town\_State/Province" and save it to your folder. (The link for purchasing a Passenger Ticket is on page 8.)  
For example, "PassengerTicket\_Snyder\_Class1\_HilltopCountyDay\_Sparta\_NJ".
- **Make a Class Ambassador Butterfly on one side of a letter-sized file folder.**  
Transform one side of a plain letter-sized file folder into a beautiful butterfly! Brainstorm ways with your students to design and decorate your butterfly in ways that represent your class as a monarch ambassador. A copy of your butterfly will be printed and shipped to Mexico, becoming a gift to the student that receives it.  
The teacher's name, school, city, state/province, and country must be **clearly written or printed** on the decorated side of your folder. Scan or take a photo of your Class Ambassador, label it using this format: "Ambassador\_TeacherLastName\_Class#\_School\_City\_State/Province" and save it to your folder.






For example, this Class Ambassador would be labeled "Ambassador\_Snyder\_Class1\_HilltopCountyDay\_Sparta\_NJ".

Note that the teacher name and information is clearly visible in the photo.

- **Create a Cluster of Life-sized Monarch Butterflies**

Each student creates one colorful, life-sized monarch ideally from one of the suggested templates. ([Monarch Butterfly Template 1](#), [Monarch Butterfly Template 2](#)) The student's first name, school, city and state/province, country, teacher's name, and teacher's email address must be clearly printed or written **on the decorated side** of each life-sized monarch and **readable in the scan or photo**. Scan or make a photo of each life-sized butterfly, label it using this format:

"StudentFirstName\_TeacherLastName\_Class#\_School\_Town\_State/Province" and save it to your folder.

 <p>Student's First Name: School: City: State/Province, Country: Teacher's Name: Teacher's email:</p>	<p>Links to the Monarch Butterfly Templates are editable Google Documents which allow you to enter the required contact information onto the page before printing. Each Template has four butterflies on a page. An example of one of those butterflies is pictured on the left.</p> <p><b>Do not cut out the butterfly shapes!</b> Simply cut the page into four rectangles so that the contact information remains part of the life-sized butterfly that a student will color.</p>
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- **The "Hello Friends/Hola Amigos" Letter**

Print one copy of the "Hello Friends/Hola Amigos" letter (page 7). **Mark the map with an X to show the approximate location of your school and draw an arrow from your town to the monarch butterfly sanctuaries in Mexico, indicating their migration route.** Using Directions on Google Maps, estimate the distance in **kilometers** from your town to Anganguero, Michoacán, 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.* Scan or make a photo of the completed document, label it using this format:

"Hola\_TeacherLastName\_Class#\_School\_Town\_State/Province" and save it to your folder.

- **Class Photo OR Note Written in Spanish (Optional)**

As an option, you can include a class photo OR a scan or photo of a ONE-PAGE note written in Spanish from your class. Only one note per classroom please! Label it using this format: "Photo\_TeacherLastName\_Class#\_School\_Town\_State/Province" and save it to your folder.

# Follow Your Class 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: 2020-2021

### Before October 9, 2020

- **Introduce Symbolic Migration**
- **Follow the directions in this packet and share your Google Drive folder with [symbolic-migration@eealliance.org](mailto:symbolic-migration@eealliance.org) by the submission deadline: October 9, 2020.**
- **Report to the Journey North Fall Symbolic Migration Participant Map. <https://maps.journeynorth.org/map/?year=2020&map=symbolic-monarch-sent> Be sure to include the teacher's name, school, town state/province in your message. Optionally, include a picture of your Class Ambassador Butterfly.**

*Special note to schools with multiple classrooms participating: Because only one picture and teacher contact will be visible for a single location on the Journey North map, please choose ONE teacher to be the point of contact for the school and make a photo collage of all Class Ambassadors to upload to Journey North's Fall Symbolic Migration Participant Map.*

### November 2020 - February 2021

#### Learn About the Monarch's Winter Home in Mexico

- **Read about your Class Ambassador Butterfly in Mexico!** Use the search function at the top right of the <https://symbolicmigration.org/> website to locate your school or town. Check back weekly! Deliveries begin mid-November and are usually completed by late February.
- **Read monarch butterfly news from Mexico:** <https://journeynorth.org/monarchs/news>
- **Enjoy online resources:** See "Life in the Monarch Sanctuary Region." <https://journeynorth.org/tm/symbolic/jr/KidsJourneyNorth.html>

### April 2021 Continue the Cycle of Friendship

- **Watch your Inbox!** You will receive an email sharing a Google Drive folder with clusters 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 teachers directly. Teacher's emails will 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.



**Hello Friends!**

We made this symbolic monarch for you at our school  
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.

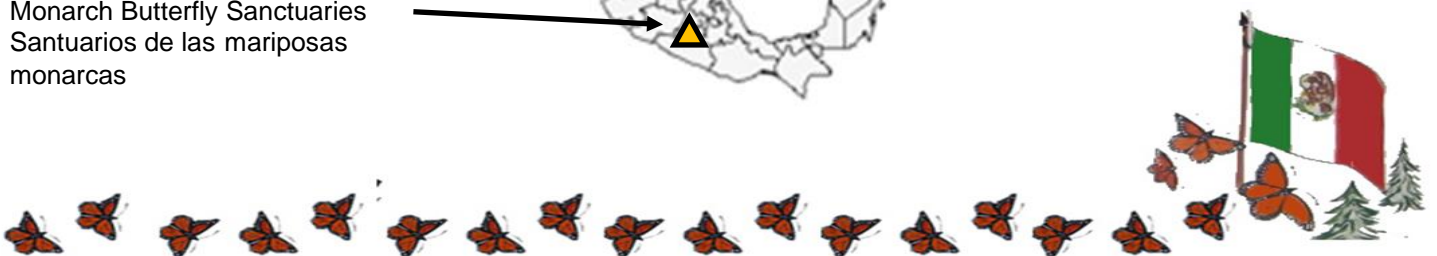
**¡Hola Amigos!**

Hicimos esta monarca simbólica para Uds. en nuestra  
escuela 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.



Monarch Butterfly Sanctuaries  
Santuarios de las mariposas  
monarcas



# Symbolic Migration Checklist

**Submission deadline: October 9, 2020**

- 1) \_\_\_ I understand that a \$10 participation fee in the form of a "Passenger Ticket" for each Class Ambassador Butterfly is required. I have purchased a "Passenger Ticket" online at <https://bit.ly/SymbolicPassengerTicket2020>, completing all of the information requested so that I can be contacted if necessary.
- 2) \_\_\_ I understand that our Class 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 students across North America, remembering that this is a class project and the return ratio may not be 1:1.
- 3) \_\_\_ I will report to the Journey North Symbolic Migration Participant FALL MAP when I share our Class Ambassador Butterfly so that our school will appear on the map of international participants, including the teacher name, school, town, state/province in the message. (Step 5 on page 3). We will take a picture of our Class Ambassador Butterfly to include when we report to the Fall Map (optional). *Please note the special instructions for schools with multiple participating classrooms in the Timeline on page 6.* FALL Symbolic Migration Participant MAP: <https://maps.journeynorth.org/map/?year=2020&map=symbolic-monarch-sent>
- 4) \_\_\_ **Items created, scanned/photographed, labeled, and saved to Google Drive folder**
  - Our Class Butterfly was creatively made on one side of a letter-sized file folder (directions on page 4). The teacher's name, school, city, state/province, and country is clearly written on the decorated side of the folder and visible in the scan or photo.
  - Individual life-sized monarchs, **each legibly labeled on the decorated side** with the student's first name, school, town, state/province, country, teacher's name and email address, one butterfly per student (ideally using one of the suggested template links on page 5)
  - A completed "Hello Friends/Hola Amigos" letter (directions on page 5; letter on page 7)
  - A class photo OR a one-page note written in Spanish (optional) (directions on page 5)
  - A copy of the "Passenger Ticket" receipt from your online payment (link for payment in #1 above; directions for labeling on page 4)
- 5) \_\_\_ **Our Google Drive folder:**
  - Contains ONLY ONE Class Butterfly and its enclosures (listed in #4 above) per folder.
  - Is submitted to [symbolic-migration@eealliance.org](mailto:symbolic-migration@eealliance.org) by October 9, 2020, i.e., **shared with EDITOR permission**. *Please check with your Instructional Technology (IT) staff to ensure that the permissions are set properly; otherwise, we will not be able to access and sort the contents.*
- 6) \_\_\_ **In the SPRING, I will contact teachers directly through email when we receive the cluster of life-sized butterflies so that the children who made them can find out where their butterflies landed.**

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



# Teaching Suggestions

## Supporting Activities for Classroom Study

<https://journeynorth.org/symbolic-migration/resources/teaching/07212020-participate-symbolic-migration-project>

Participating in the Symbolic Migration Project can help engage students in learning about the wonders of the natural world. It can also serve as a platform from which students can learn important scientific processes such as the life cycle and annual cycle of monarch butterflies. The Symbolic Migration Project can also help to build bridges across North America. Below are suggestions for a wide array of lesson ideas and investigations that students may pursue to enhance their participation in the Symbolic Migration project. There are so many creative ways to integrate the journey of monarch butterflies into curriculum. This list is not to be exhaustive; rather this list is to inspire you to find your own “best approach” to facilitating student learning.

*Activity #1: Introduce the Symbolic Migration Project:* Use these three slideshows: [The Symbolic Migration](#); [Life in the Monarch Sanctuary Region](#); and, [Symbolic Monarchs Arrive in Sanctuary Schools](#) to introduce the project to students.



*Activity #2: Learn about the life cycle and annual cycle of monarch butterflies:* Build an understanding of monarch butterfly migration and give context for the Symbolic Migration Project by exploring the Journey North monarch [webpages](#).

*Activity #3: Explore the concept of ambassadorship:* An ambassador is a goodwill representative or messenger. Anyone can be an ambassador. For example, a student can be an ambassador for your school when visiting another school. A country’s official ambassador is the person who is designated to represent his or her own country in a foreign country. The role of an ambassador is to cultivate friendship and build cooperation. Tell students they are about to design a Symbolic Monarch that will travel to Mexico as an ambassador.



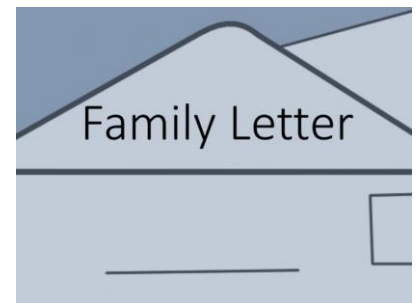
Explain that the role of an ambassador is to cultivate friendship and build cooperation. Use students’ familiarity with friendship and cooperation to help them understand ambassadorship. Ask your students to brainstorm answers to questions such as: How would you describe our school community? What do we share with our school friends? What do we want to show with our butterfly? How can we show our interest and concern for monarch butterfly conservation?

*Activity #4: Explore how far Symbolic and real monarchs travel:* Monarchs fly between Canada, the United States, and Mexico on their annual migrations. Use the maps on [this page](#) to discuss monarch migration. Measure the distance your symbolic monarch will need to travel to the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve in the state of Michoacán, Mexico. (Angangueo and Ocampo are two of the nearest towns to the larger monarch sanctuaries open to the public.) Count the political borders the monarchs must cross.



*Activity #5: Explore the concepts of shared natural resources and shared responsibilities:* Just like the water we drink and the air we breathe, monarch butterflies are a shared natural resource which means no country or person “owns” the monarch butterfly. All North American neighbors share responsibility for protecting monarch habitat. Monarchs depend on cooperation between us all. Each person, town, state, province, and country can be important in preserving the monarch’s magnificent migration by preserving and planting more habitat. Discuss the actions, laws, and responsibilities of people in the many backyards, towns, states, provinces, and countries along the monarch’s migration path.

*Activity #6: Involve the whole family:* Use this family letter ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#)) to invite families to learn alongside their children. The whole family can join the fun while also supporting their child’s learning in several ways.



- Become a citizen scientist with Journey North. [Register](#) and [submit](#) your observations of monarch butterflies, monarch eggs, monarch larvae and milkweed.
- Read Monarch Migration News Updates starting in September on the Journey North website [monarch butterfly news](#) and watch the monarch migration happen on real-time [maps](#).
- Read Estela Romero’s weekly [blogs](#) as she delivers Symbolic Monarch Ambassadors to schools in Mexico. Estela is the educator and official courier of Ambassador Monarchs for Symbolic Migration project in Mexico.



Hello from Mexico! I'm Estela Romero delivering your Symbolic Monarchs to beside the monarch sanctuaries