



Monarch Butterfly Teacher Guide

*M*onarchs are important for many reasons. TxDOT has joined other states, including Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, and Oklahoma to promote awareness of the monarch butterfly and other pollinators. In this partnership, TxDOT has created and managed pollinator habitats along the road.

TxDOT plants wildflowers along the road every year to cut down on mowing costs and create pollinator habitat. In fact, they have been doing this since the 1930s! By 1965, TxDOT partnered with Lady Bird Johnson, wife of President and Texan Lyndon B. Johnson, to start the Highway Beautification Act, an effort to clean up the roadways.

TxDOT is also part of the Monarch Conservancy Candidate Agreement with Assurances, a program with the purpose to protect monarch butterflies by studying them and creating habitats. All these efforts highlight the many ways TxDOT is a champion for pollinators and other critters along the roadside.

Thanks for going Beyond The Road with TxDOT and learning more about monarch butterflies!

Applicable TEKS: Science 9B (K); 9A (2nd); 2B (4th)

Want to learn more about butterflies?

- Read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, by Eric Carle, and try this [activity](#) to learn more about the life cycle of a butterfly.
- The World Wildlife Foundation has an entire monarch [toolkit](#) you can download, with posters and multi-discipline activities.
- Check out these free butterfly [resources](#) for early learners.
- Play the butterfly life cycle [game](#) online!