

The Columbian for kids!

Watch for The Columbian for Kids special section coming April 13, with our Summer Camps & Family Fun section.

Kazoodles TOYS
kid-powered fun

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BUZZ ON IN TO DISCOVER SPRING TOYS THAT WOW!

The Amazing Adventure of Monarch Butterflies

by Stephanie Feldstein

Monarch butterflies are beautiful orange and black butterflies. They have white spots around the edges of their wings and on their bodies. Each year, they take an amazing journey to arrive in gardens across the country.

Monarch butterflies spend their winters in warm forests. Butterflies who live west of the Rocky Mountains – like those in Washington and Oregon – fly south to California for the winter. The ones who live in the eastern United States go all the way to mountain forests in Mexico. These small insects can travel up to 100 miles a day. It can take two months to reach their winter home. Some fly as far as 3,000 miles to get there. They're the only butterfly known to do this kind of migration.

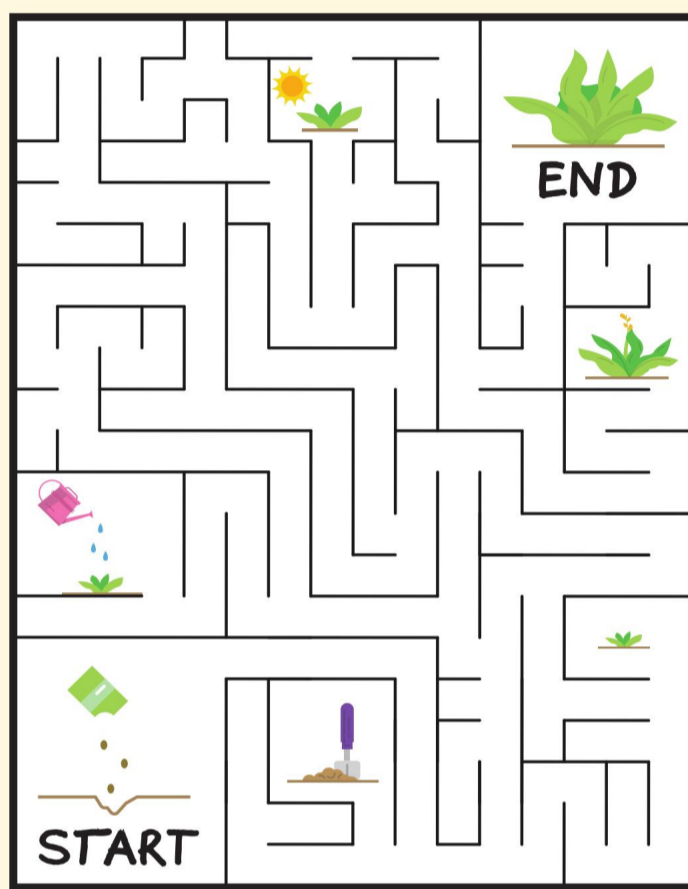
In Mexico, tens of thousands of butterflies cluster together on the trees to stay warm. Each butterfly weighs less than a piece of paper, but so many gather on trees that sometimes the branches will break. The butterflies stay cozy in the forests of Mexico and California until it's time to migrate again. As spring arrives, they begin their journey back north.

Once they arrive at your garden, monarch butterflies drink from lots of different kinds of flowers. Some of their favorite flowers are zinnias, daisies, sunflowers and echinacea. They help keep your garden healthy. Soon they lay eggs that will turn into caterpillars. Monarch caterpillars only eat one kind of food. They need milkweed to grow and become butterflies. Those new butterflies will make the next winter's journey south.

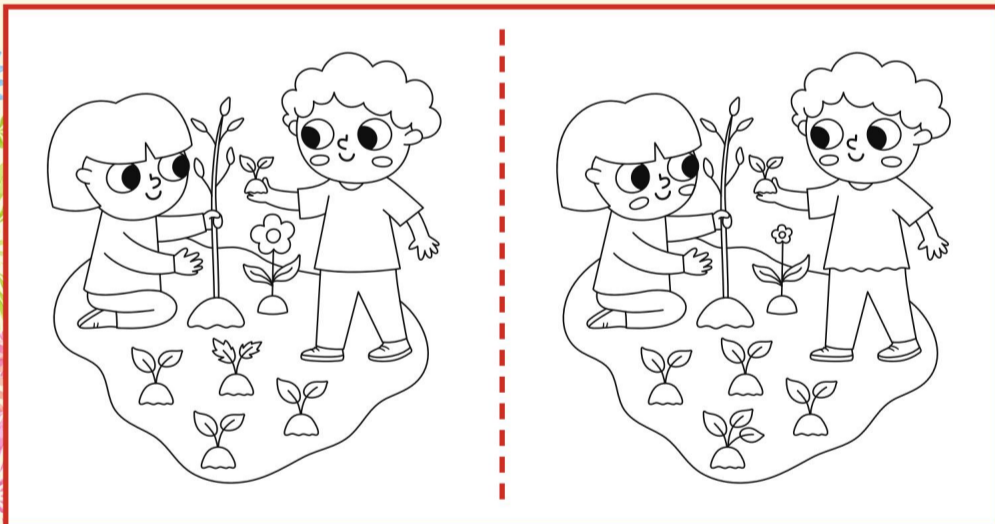
There are fewer monarch butterflies than there used to be. Climate change is shrinking the forests where they spend the winter. Chemicals used to grow food kills off milkweed plants. Without milkweed, the caterpillars don't have enough food to grow into butterflies. You can help by planting milkweed in your garden. Avoid using any chemicals in your garden that might harm the butterflies. It's also important to plant lots of different kinds of flowers that bloom at different times. That way butterflies have enough to eat in the spring and the fall before their next adventure.



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THEN COLOR!



MARCH BOOK REVIEW

The Girl From Earth's End by Tara Dairman

Imagine growing up on a secluded island, where it's only you and two adults who live there. What would you do in your free time? Henna, a 12-year-old girl who lives on the small island of Earth's End, develops a love and passion for gardening. When Henna learns that one of her papas is sick and that there might be a cure involving an extinct plant and an orange tree, she attends a gardening school to find the plant's seed. There, she becomes friends with P and Laura.

The Girl from Earth's End will resonate with most readers - Henna's passion for gardening and love for her family, P struggling with pretending to be someone they're not, and Laura accepting help from others. It's a book about love and going to great lengths for the people you care about. It's about having new experiences and adventures in the world, following your passion, creating new friends, and discovering who you are as a person.

Book review by Ashlyn Madani



Check Out The Columbian for kids!

"The Outdoor Issue"

coming April 13, with the
Summer Camps & Family Fun section.

Kids - Win a Free Book!

Have your parent or guardian enter the contest by emailing the following information to kids@columbian.com

- Parent/Guardian First & Last Name
- Parent/Guardian Phone #
- Kids First Name
- Kids Age
- City



Contest dates are March 9 - April 5. Participants must be 18 years or older and a resident of Clark County, WA to participate. Parents or legal guardians must enter for those under the age of 18. Total value of the prize is \$18.99 and has no cash value. No purchase necessary. See sweepstakes rules for details. For a complete set of rules, email info@columbianpromotions.com.