Butterfly Identification - Sheet 3

Red admiral

Wingspan 2 ½ inches (64mm)

The name 'admiral' is derived from the word 'admirable'. These striking butterflies arrive in Britain in early summer and have black wings with bright red bands and white patches. They feed on buddleias, rotting fruit and Michaelmas ⁱsies and drink from puddles

When to look out for it: May to October

Painted lady

Wingspan 2 1/4 inches (57mm)

These colourful butterflies with orange and black markings fly hundreds of miles from North Africa every year to breed in Britain.

They love the nectar from buddleias and many other flowers

When to look out for it: March to October

Peacock

Wingspan 2 3/8 inches (60mm)

Easily recognised by the 'eyes' resembling those on a peacock's tail. These are a means of defence as it opens and closes its wings rapidly displaying four 'eyes' which frighten off predators.

Caterpillars are hairy black





