

# MONARCH MIGRATION

## It's A Risky Journey

(Adapted by Anna Weyers/Big Muddy National Fish and Wildlife Refuge)

**Play this game to explore the hazards and helpers monarchs encounter on their journey to Mexico. A series of numbered cards are placed in this area. Follow the steps.**

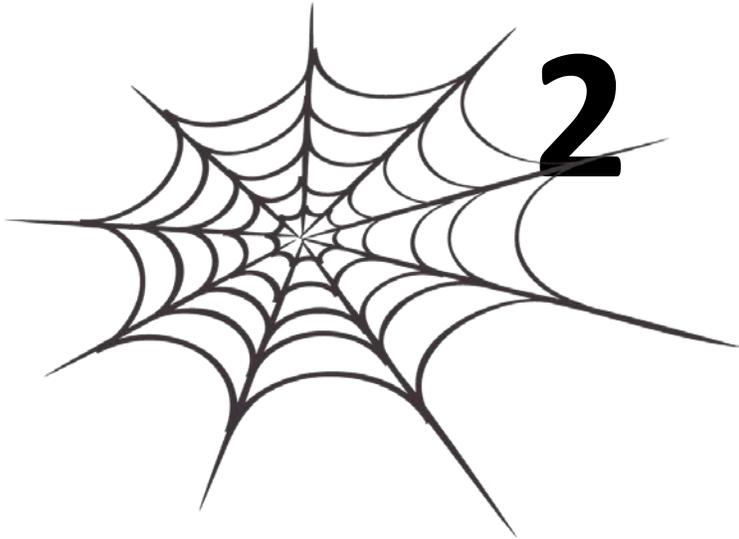
- 1. To start your journey, roll the die and begin on the card with the number you roll.**
- 2. Follow the instructions on each card. When conditions are favorable, the card will tell you to move ahead. When you encounter a hazard, you may be delayed or have to go back. Sometimes you will need to roll a die.**
- 3. REMEMBER! Not all monarchs survive migration. Some will live and some will die. Fill out the chart at the end of the journey.**
- 4. Return your card at the end of your journey.**

**Materials needed: a copy of the numbered cards, dice, something to keep track of the monarch survival, and stickers for "tagging".**

# 1

**Watch out!**

**Spider webs ahead. Don't hit  
them! Crawl ahead 5 feet.  
Then move to Station 3.**



**Good news! Food is plentiful.  
Milkweed plants and other  
wildflowers are available in an  
overgrown field near a river.  
Smack your lips 10 times and  
move ahead 6 stations.**

# 3

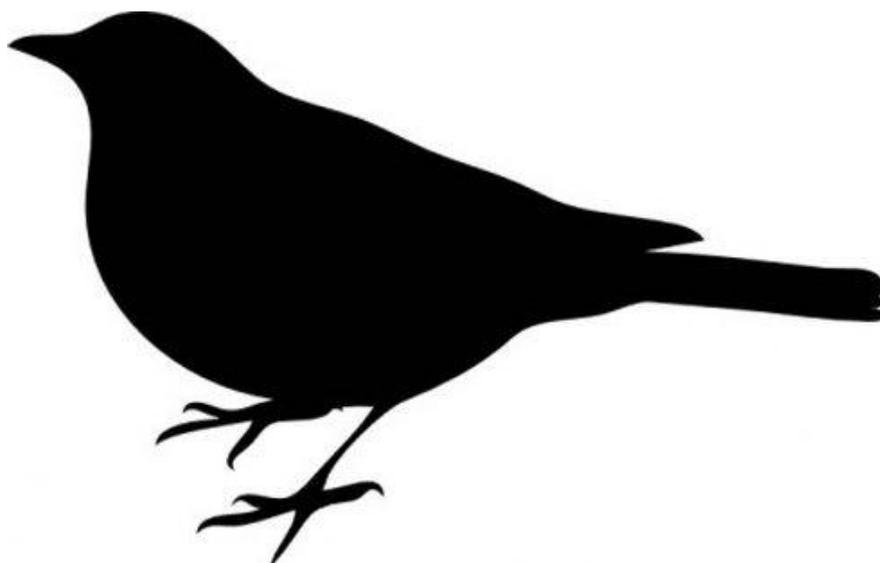
**Bad news. You land by a polluted marsh and become sick from the food you eat. Sit down, and hold your stomach and count to 30. Groan 10 times. Then move ahead 1 station.**

**4**

**Watch out for the predator. It  
wants to eat you! Freeze,  
count to 40, and then sneak  
ahead 2 stations.**

# 5

**You escape capture by a bird, but slightly sprain your wing in the escape. Get it back in shape. Slowly flap your left arm 10 times. Move ahead 1 station.**



# 6

**Scientists catch you for research. They put a sticker on your wing and set you free.  
Put a sticker on your shirt.  
Move ahead 3 stations.**



# 7

**You were caught by a child that wants to keep you for a pet. Count to 5 while you wait for them to release you.**

**Once you are released roll the die and move ahead that number of stations**



8

**You find a pollinator garden at a school that has a variety of flowers. Spend a few days enjoying the nectar. Sip 20 times. Roll the die and move ahead that number of stations.**



**9**

**It's raining, it's pouring, and your wings are too heavy to fly in this rainstorm. Count to 50 while you wait for the storm to stop. Roll the die and move ahead that number of stations.**

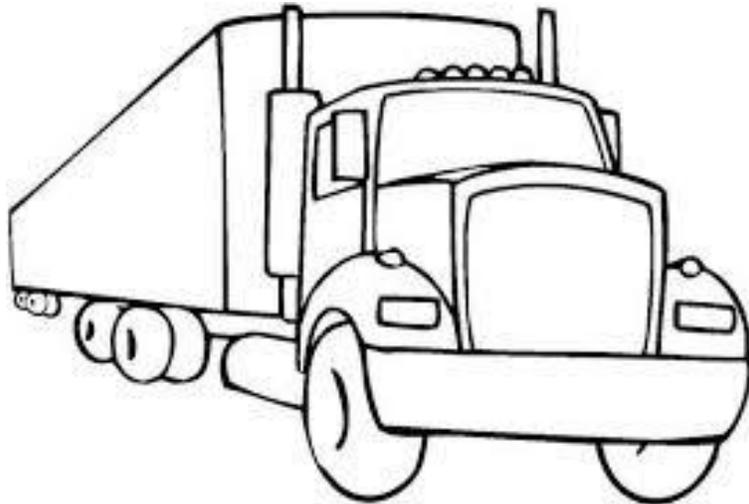


**10**

**You can't find a resting spot because the trees you use to roost in have been cut down. Walk around in 3 wide circles searching for a place to rest then move ahead 1 station.**

# 11

**Whew! While flying near a large city, you almost collide with a large truck. Go back 2 stations while you recover.**



# 12

**You arrive at a large lake, where there is lots of swamp milkweed and other wetland flowers in bloom. Rub your stomach 15 times and move ahead 5 stations.**

# 13



**You are able to fly a long distance in one day because of good winds. Roll the die and move ahead that number of stations.**

# 14



**Bad Storm! No flying today.  
Your wings are wet and you  
need to rest. Flap your arms  
while you count to 10. Go  
back 1 station.**

# 15



**Strong winds from the wrong direction keep you from migrating. Roll the die and blow back that many spaces!**

# 16

**A young bird catches you and eats you. The game is over for you. SORRY! You died. Die dramatically... then go back to the beginning and mark the chart.**

# 17

**You flew into a spider web but escaped! Flap your arms 5 times to get the rest of the spiders web off your wings and move ahead 2 stations.**

# 18

**You just ran into a windshield of a car. The game is over for you. SORRY! You died. Go back to the beginning and mark the chart.**

# 19

**Good News!!! A good wind helps you fly. Move ahead 5 stations.**

# 20

**After flying for several days,  
you land in a wildlife refuge.  
Spend time resting and eating  
the abundance of food. Gulp  
10 times, take a rest, then  
move ahead 4 stations.**



# 21



**OOPS! An unexpected freeze causes food to become scarce. Go back 2 stations as you try to find more food.**

# 22

**You were caught and placed in  
an insect collection. SORRY!  
You are dead. Go back to the  
beginning and mark the chart.**

# 23

**Strong winds blow you off course. Blow back 1 station.**



# 24

**Spend 5 days resting and feeding in another wildlife refuge. Count to 40. Because you are strong, you can fly to finish!**

# MIGRATION GAME

## RESULTS CHART

**Write where you started from. Check if you were successful or not successful in your migration.**

State	Successful	Not Successful