

**PROTECT & RESPECT  
BUTTERFLIES**

**BAY CHECKERSPOT**



**WESTERN  
MONARCH**

**MOURNING  
CLOAK**



**WESTERN  
PYGMY-BLUE**



**FIERY  
SKIPPER**

**WESTERN TIGER  
SWALLOWTAIL**



**CALIFORNIA  
SISTER**



# BAY CHECKERSPOT

*Euphydryas editha bayensis*

**Description:** A medium-sized butterfly with black bands along the veins of the upper wings, bordering the red, yellow, and white spots that give the Bay checkerspot its name.

**Wingspan:** 1 ½ - 2 ¼ inches (4 - 5.6 cm)

**Lifespan:** 10 days

**Fun fact:** There are likely only 4 - 5 core populations of the Bay checkerspot left, all of which are in the San Francisco Bay Area!



# WESTERN MONARCH

*Danaus plexippus*

**Description:** A large butterfly with a black body covered in white spots. Wings are a deep orange color with black borders and veins, and it has white spots on the black edges of its wings.

**Wingspan:** 3 - 4 inches (7.6 - 10.1 cm)

**Lifespan:** 2 - 5 weeks (except the last generation for the year, which can live 8 - 9 months)

**Fun fact:** Western monarchs have evolved to have a natural immunity to milkweed's glycoside toxins!



# WESTERN PYGMY-BLUE

*Brephidium exilis*

**Description:** A small butterfly with an underside of the body and wings that are white, and copper coloring towards the edges of the wings. The upper side of its body and wings have a deep blue center with copper coloring towards the edges. It has three or four dark spots near its body, and small black spots along the edges of its wings.

**Wingspan:**  $\frac{1}{2}$  -  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch (1.2 - 2 cm)

**Lifespan:** 7 - 12 days

**Fun fact:** The Western pygmy-blue is the smallest species of butterfly in North America.



# FIERY SKIPPER

*Hylephila phyleus*



**Description:** A small butterfly with a bulky, light brown body and light brown wings. The underside of the wings has black or brown spots on them. Females have orange bands on the upper side of their wings.

**Wingspan:** 1 ¼ - 1 ½ inches (3.2 - 3.8 cm)

**Lifespan:** 6 - 11 days

**Fun fact:** Fiery skippers have bulky bodies, which is a trait more commonly found in moths than butterflies, but they are still classified as butterflies.





# MOURNING CLOAK

*Nymphalis antiopa*

**Description:** A large butterfly with a dark brown body and wings that are a dark brown or red color. The edges of the wings are cream bordered by a black stripe with light blue spots.

**Wingspan:** 2 ¼ - 4 inches (5.7 - 10.1 cm)

**Lifespan:** 10+ months

**Fun fact:** Mourning cloaks only occasionally eat nectar! They prefer sap (especially from oak trees) and occasionally rotting fruit.





# CALIFORNIA SISTER

*Adelpha californica*

**Description:** A medium-sized butterfly with a black and white striped body and wings with stripes of black, brown, white, and light blue. A white stripe runs through both the upper and lower wings. It has orange spots on the outer corners of the upper wings and the bottom of the lower wings.

**Wingspan:** 2 ½ - 4 inches (6.3 - 10.1 cm)

**Lifespan:** 6 - 30 days

**Fun fact:** The California sister has similar markings to the Arizona sister! The best way to differentiate between the two is that the California sister is typically smaller.



# WESTERN TIGER SWALLOWTAIL

*Papilio rutulus*

**Description:** A large butterfly with a yellow and black striped body. Its wings have black borders with yellow spots on them, and the centers of the wings are a pale yellow with vertical black stripes going down from the top of the wings.

**Wingspan:** 2 - 4 inches (5.1 - 10.1 cm)

**Lifespan:** 6 - 14 days

**Fun fact:** Western tiger swallowtails engage in an act called "puddling," where they gather on the ground to consume sodium ions and amino acids!

