

HUMAN IMPACTS ON MIGRATION CHALLENGE | TEACHER GUIDE



Activity Overview:

In this activity, students will be planting the wildflower seeds they received from Change is Simple. Students learned about the changing migration patterns of monarch butterflies due to urbanization and climate change. By planting wildflowers, students will provide one of our most important pollinators with food and a resting place!

Prep Time: 10-15 minutes

Activity Duration: 15-20 minutes



STANDARDS ALIGNMENT

NGSS

- *K-ESS3-3: Communicate solutions that will reduce the impact of humans on the land, water, air, and/or other living things in the local environment.*

Mass Comp Health

- *2.7.CE.1: Identify the impact of personal activities that contribute, positively or negatively, to the environment. [HE]*
- *2.7.CE.3: Identify strategies to minimize impact on the environment (e.g., reduce, reuse, recycle). [HE]*

MATERIALS NEEDED

- *Wildflower seeds*
- *If planting indoors:*
 - *Shallow tray or egg cartons*
 - *Soil*
 - *Spray bottle or watering can*
 - *Wildflower seeds*
 - *[Video Instructions](#)*



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Monarch butterflies are greatly impacted by pesticides and herbicides sprayed by farms and people in their yards. By planting wildflowers, and milkweed, we can greatly help all of our pollinators and especially the monarch butterfly populations. Milkweed is the only food that a monarch caterpillar will eat, and monarch butterflies like the nectar of many wildflowers. By planting native wildflowers, we can help provide safe places for monarchs to land, find food, and take a rest along their migration, and by planting milkweed, we are helping the butterflies find safe places to lay their eggs.

ACTIVITY RUNDOWN

1. Go over expectations with students for going outside.
2. If it's warm enough to plant, take a walk outside with your class and be sure to bring your seeds. If students set up a pollinator paradise from their Bee Bots challenge, have students take turns sprinkling the wildflower seeds in the pollinator paradise.
 - a. If no pollinator paradise was set up, no worries! Have your class find a safe place to plant your seeds that will get enough light but will be safe from mowing, mulching, and walking. Students can take turns sprinkling the seeds there.
3. Once the wildflowers have been planted, check in periodically with your class and try to spot some of the pollinators students learned about in their Change is Simple lessons.
4. If you're planting inside, use this [video](#) to get started! Once it's warm enough, transfer your flowers outside for the pollinators to enjoy!

