

**Word Bank:**

migration

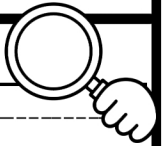
generation

overwintering

monarch

The monarch butterfly is famous for its incredible journey. Every year, monarchs migrate over 2,000 miles from Canada and the northern United States all the way to central Mexico. That is one of the longest migrations of any insect in the world. When winter comes, monarchs travel south to escape the cold and find food. Once they arrive in Mexico, they spend the winter resting together in the same trees, a behavior called overwintering. In the spring, they begin the journey north again. Here is the surprising part. No single monarch completes the whole round trip. The journey is so long that it can take three or four generations of butterflies to finish it. Each generation flies part of the way, then lays eggs so the next generation can continue the journey.

1. Which butterfly is famous for migrating long distances?



2. How far can monarch butterflies migrate?

3. What does "overwintering" mean?

4. Why might it take more than one generation to complete the migration?

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1. Which butterfly is famous for migrating long distances?

The monarch butterfly

2. How far can monarch butterflies migrate?

Over 2,000 miles

3. What does "overwintering" mean?

Resting or surviving through the cold winter months in one safe place.

4. Why might it take more than one generation to complete the migration?

The trip is so long that it takes several generations of butterflies to finish it.

