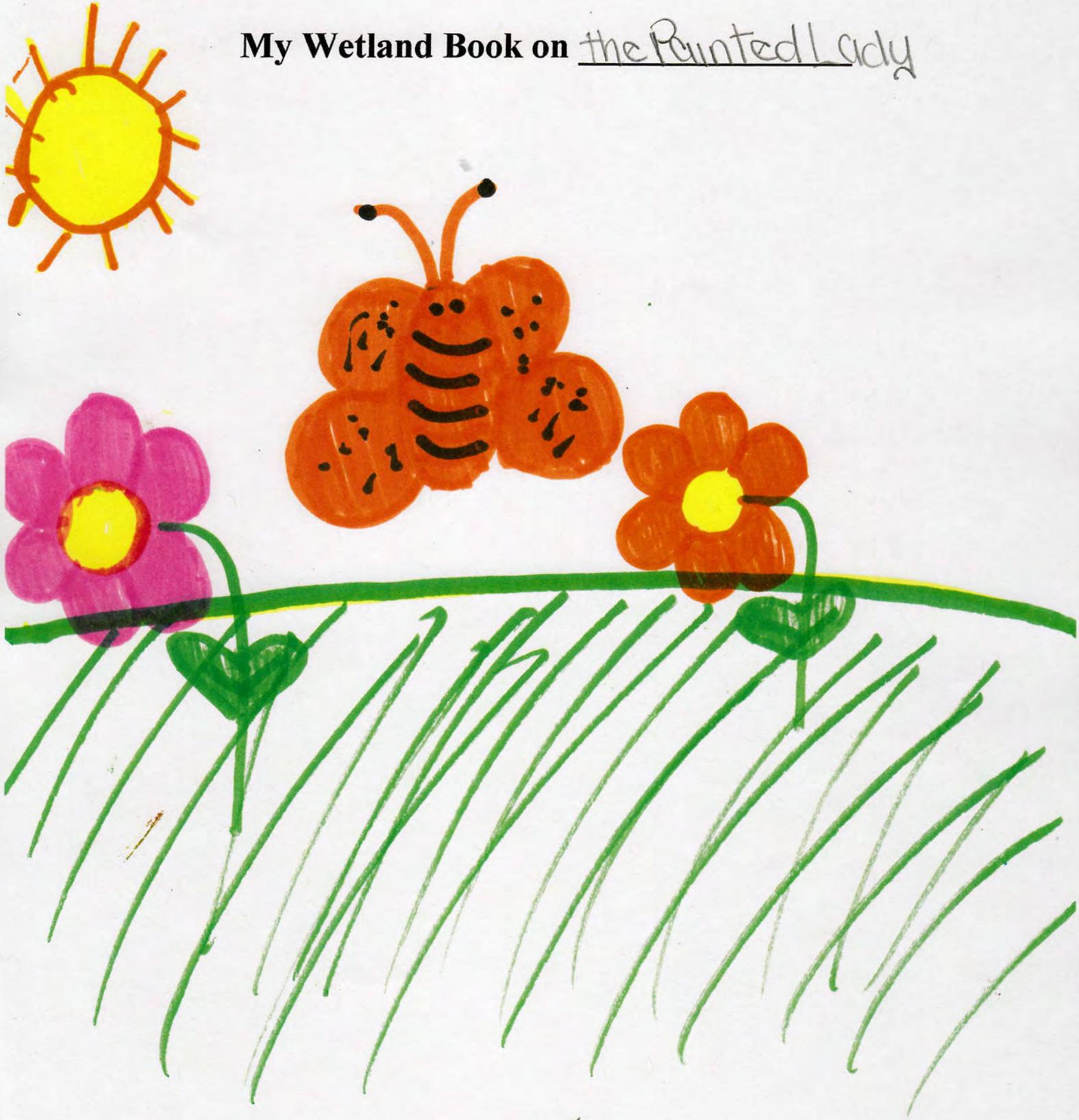
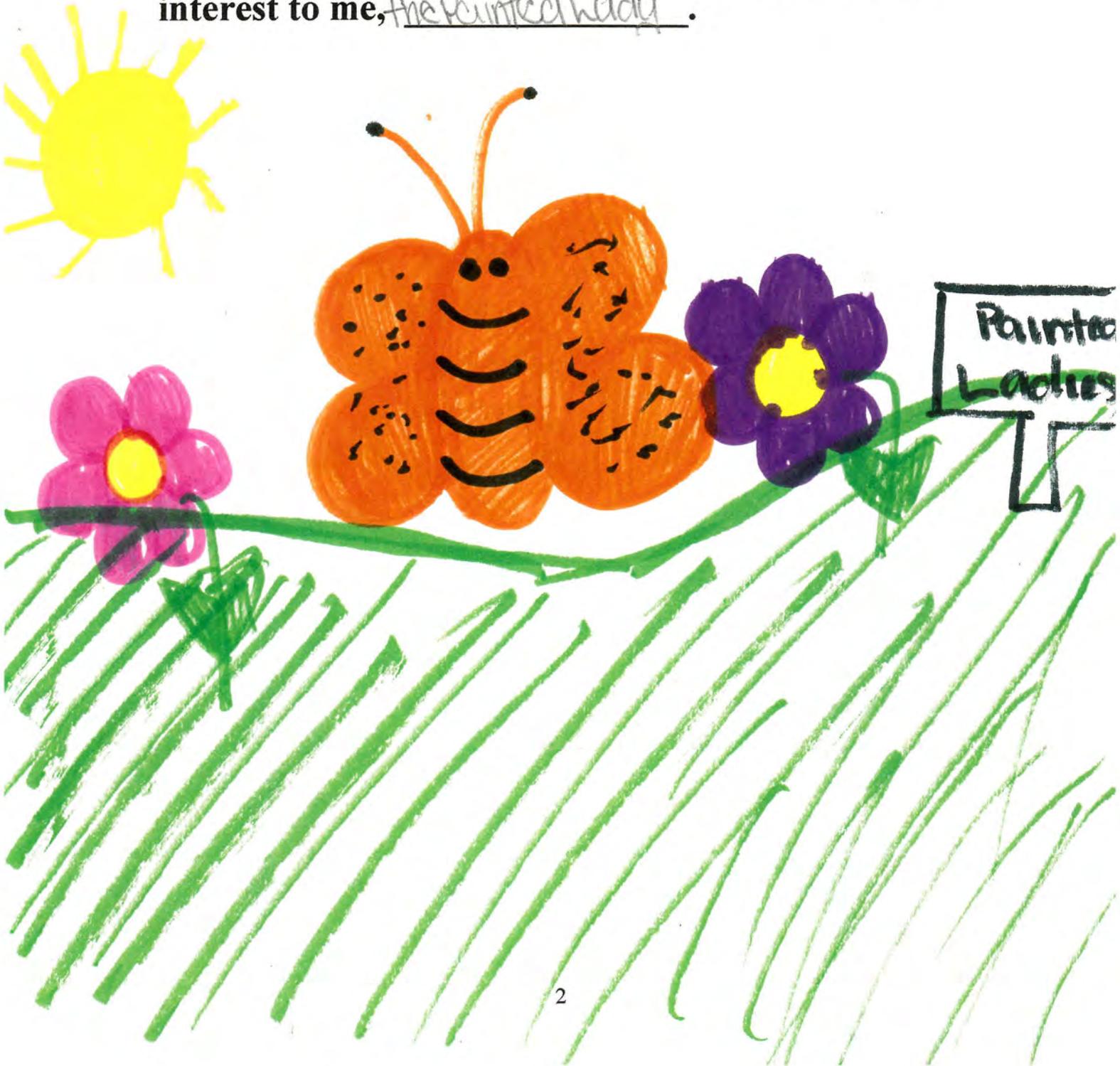


My Wetland Book on the Painted Lady



Written by Berenize

Hello fellow students. My name is Bereniza and I'm a 5<sup>th</sup> grade student at an elementary school in Watsonville. I'm in a special class where we are learning about *wetlands* and I'd like to share with you about what *wetlands* are, how important they are, and an animal of particular interest to me, the Painted Lady.



*About me...*

But before I start my book, I'd like to share with you about some of my favorite things.

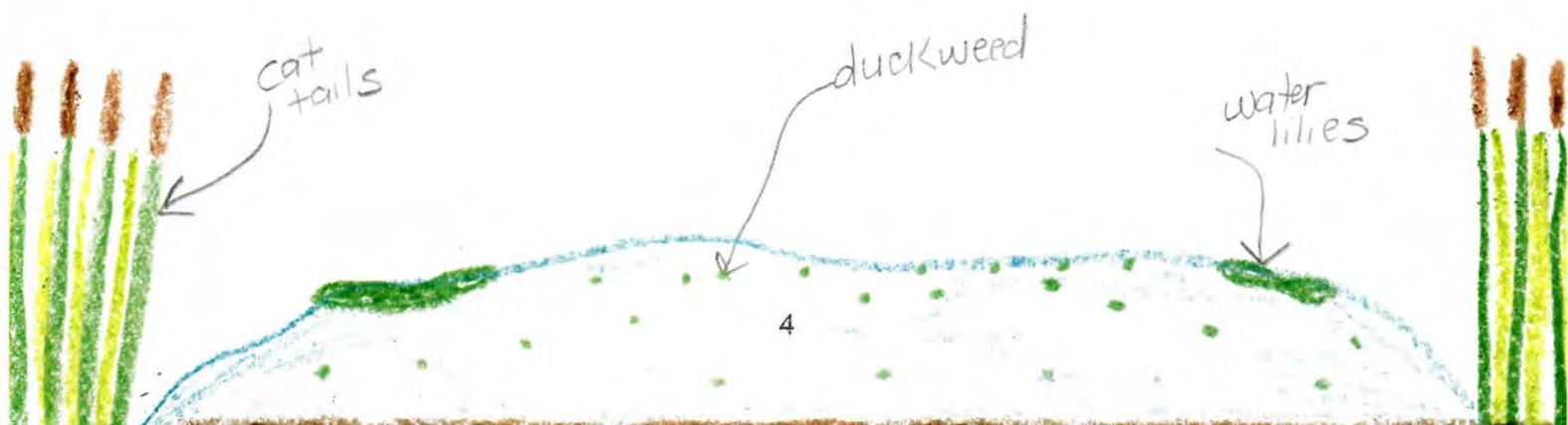
My favorite color is purple.  
My favorite state is Nevada.  
My favorite animal is a puppy.



Okay, now I'm ready to write about what *wetlands* are and facts about one of my favorite animals, the painted lady.

First, *wetlands* are essentially a very unique ecosystem in that the land is always, or at least most of time, wet- hence the name, *wetlands*. This ecosystem has special characteristics such as:

- water is shallow
- water plants, such as duckweed & water lilies.
- mud is like clay! very wet and sticky

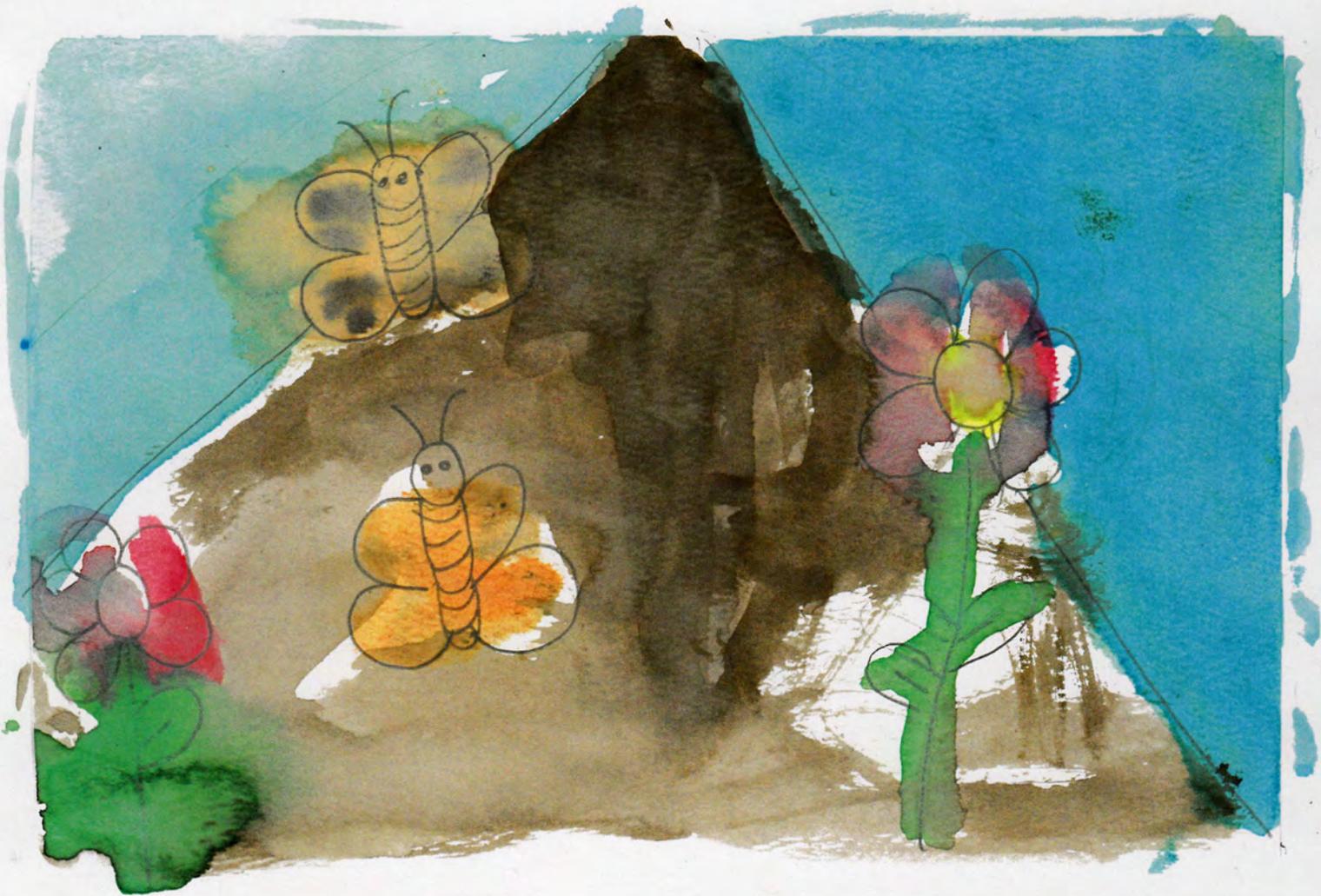


Second, we are very fortunate to literally have *wetlands* as part of our community. They serve many *important* purposes, such as:

- prevent floods by absorbing excess rain water
  - filter water clean (duckweed does this, very tiny plant.)
  - habitat for many plants and animals.
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Third, there is a particular animal of interest to me, namely the Painted lady. I chose this animal because it is pretty and it has different colors and its  
easy for it to camouflage.



**In the following paragraphs, I will briefly discuss what I researched about my animal of interest, the Painted Lady. I will cover the following: classification, common name, scientific name, physical characteristics, behavior, if the animal camouflages, adaptations, range, migratory, population, status, reproduction, habitat, prey, predators, where animal fits in food web, and whether the Ohlone Indians used the animal for food, clothing, or other purposes. I hope you enjoy the book!**

## ***Classification***

The Painted lady is a invertebrate because it doesn't have a backbone. It is classified as an insect because it has an exoskeleton.

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## ***Names***

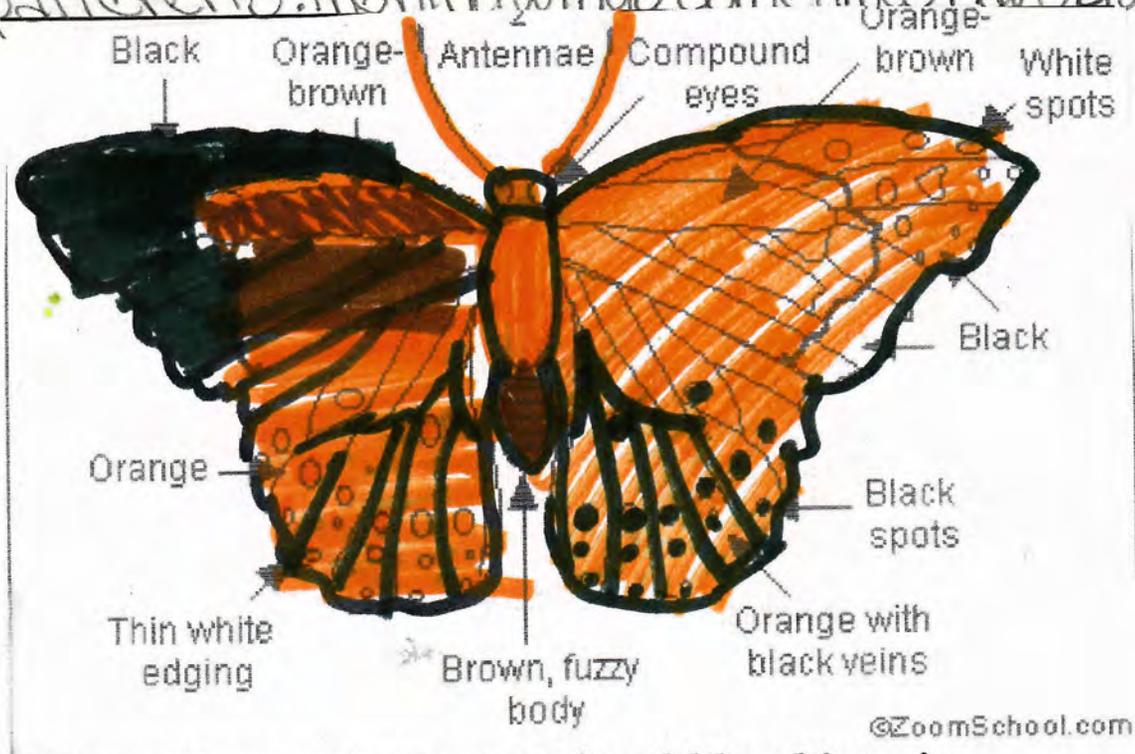
The Painted lady has two names. The common name is Painted lady, and the *scientific name* is Vanessa cardui.

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In science, the *scientific name* is the genus and species of the animal or plant.

**Physical characteristics... my animal looks like...**

**My animal** is about 5cm (about 2in)  
across. The upper surfaces are orange with black  
with black blotches and black margins, while  
the undersides are rosey pink with black and  
white patterns. The hindwings sometimes have blue eyespot



**Camouflage...does my animal blend into its environment?**

**After reading about my animal, I realize that**  
**it** does blend in its environment,  
but it depends on where  
it lands. For example, if it lands  
on an orange flower, it camouflages,  
however, if it lands on a purple  
or yellow flower, it does not camouflage.

## *Adaptations*

**My animal is unique because** it goes from  
North Africa to North Finland and  
from Mexico to Northern Canada to  
Alaska.

## *Animal behavior*

**The way I would describe the behavior of my**  
**animal is** many of the Painted Ladies  
Migrate; every year great numbers  
of them fly north in the spring  
and south during the winter.

## **Range**

The Painted lady is found in North Africa to North Finland and it's also found in Mexico to Northern Canada and Alaska. As you can see, their range is global.

***Migratory...does it travel from one location to another during seasons?***

The Painted Lady does migrate. For example, it goes to North Africa to North Finland and from Mexico to the Northern Canada and Alaska.

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## ***Population***

The population of my animal is a tremendous amount of painted ladies in the summer and in the mid-october too.

## ***Status***

The status of the Painted lady tells me whether it is endangered, threatened, or stable. What I found out is that the Painted lady is Stable. I find this interesting because they don't need any kind of protection because there's a lot of them.

## **Reproduction**

**The reproduction of the Painted lady**  
is a life cycle that begins with  
an egg. The incubation period is  
3 to 5 days. The next stage in the  
life cycle is a caterpillar. The caterpillar  
eats for 5 to 10 days and then pupates into a chrysalis.  
**Habitat...home** After 7-10 days, the butterfly emerges.

**The Painted lady habitat is found**  
almost anywhere; they prefer brightly  
lit, open environments like clover  
fields, flowery meadows and  
hilly country's.

**Prey and predator...(to eat and to be eaten)**

The prey my animal eats are: doesn't have  
prey but it does eat daisy  
leaves.

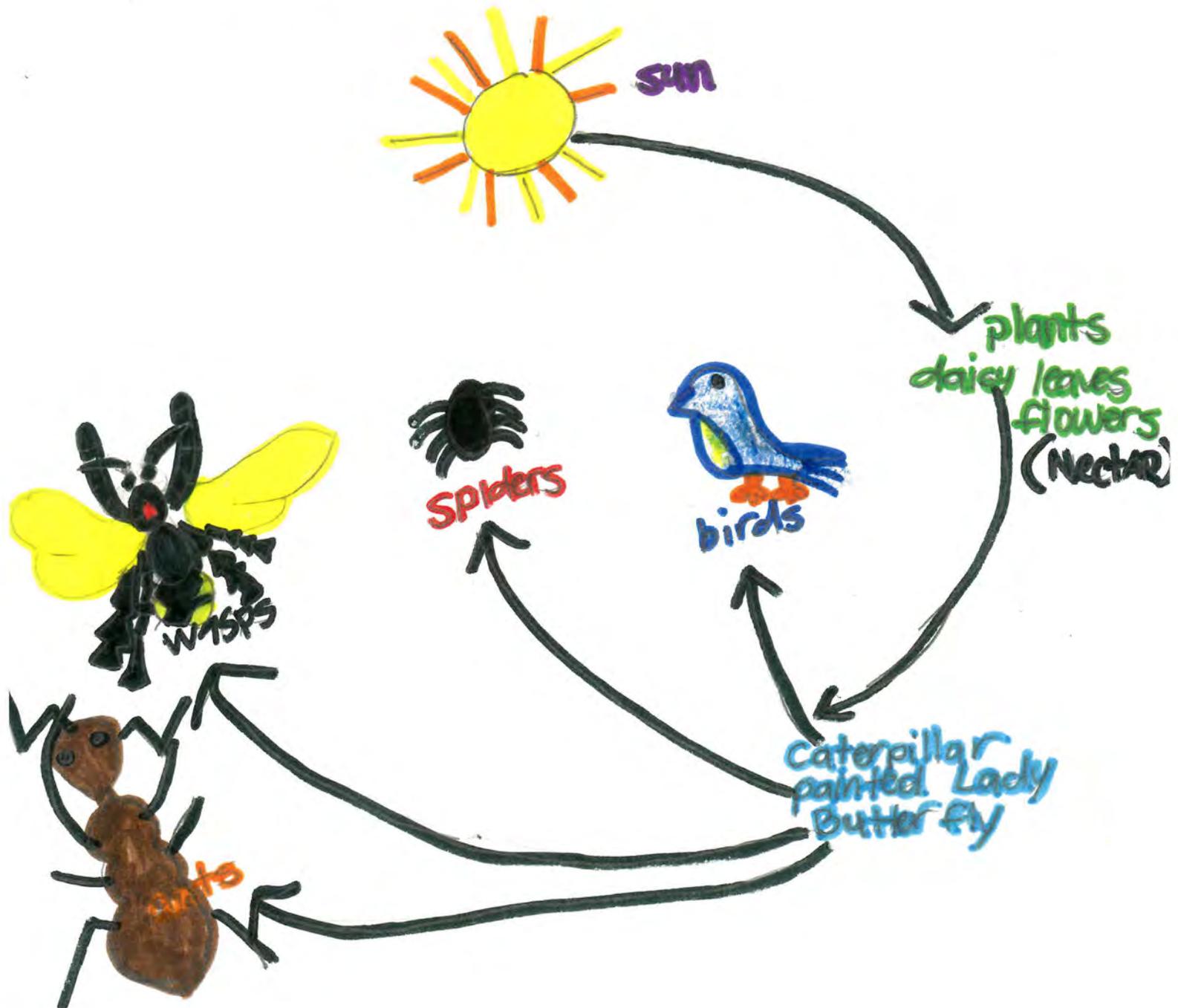


The predators that eat me are: \_\_\_\_\_  
wasps, spiders, ants, and  
birds.



## Food web

My animal is a Painted lady. The following picture demonstrates where my animal fits in the food web.



## *Ohlone Indians*

I'm curious to see if the Ohlone Indians used the Painted lady in anyway, for example, for food, clothing, or for other purposes. What I discovered was that I found  
no information.

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## References

(web-sites)

[www.watsonvillewetlands.com](http://www.watsonvillewetlands.com)

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[www.discovertheforest.com](http://www.discovertheforest.com)

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[www.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.nationalgeographic.com)

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[www.paintedladyinformationforkids.com](http://www.paintedladyinformationforkids.com)

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[www.paintedladyfunfacts.com](http://www.paintedladyfunfacts.com)

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Thank you for reading my book. I hope you enjoyed it and learned a lot about the Painted Lady. Please feel free to *comment* about my book and also, test your knowledge by answering the following *questions* below. I look forward to hearing from you.

**Comments for me:**

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**Questions for you: (Can you answer these...)**

1. Did you enjoy reading about Painted Ladies?
2. Do you like to read about wetlands?
3. What is your favorite animal?