

# **The Magic of Monarch Butterflies**

## **Migration Marvel**

Every fall, millions of monarch butterflies travel up to 3,000 miles from the United States and Canada to their wintering grounds in central Mexico. This incredible journey is one of nature's most remarkable phenomena.

## **Life Cycle**

Monarchs go through complete metamorphosis: egg, caterpillar, chrysalis, and adult butterfly. The distinctive black, yellow, and white striped caterpillars feed exclusively on milkweed plants, which make them toxic to predators.

## **Conservation**

Monarch populations have declined dramatically due to habitat loss and climate change. Planting native milkweed and avoiding pesticides helps support these beautiful butterflies. Their annual migration is now listed as endangered.