Activity Title: Clothespin Butterfly

Grade Level: K-2

Classroom Time: 1 class period

Materials:
One piece wooden clothespins or doll pins
Tissue paper precut into rectangle sheets:
  twice the length of the clothespin by
  once the length of the clothespin
Chenille stem cut in half

Objectives: Students will learn that the wings of a butterfly are delicate and covered with minute scales

Teacher’s introduction to the activity: Butterflies have delicate scale-covered wings. The coloration of butterfly wings is created by the minute scales. These scales are pigmented with melanins creating black and brown color; blue, green, red and iridescence colors are created not by pigments but the microstructure of the scales. This structural coloration is the result of coherent scattering of light by the scales. The scales cling somewhat loosely to the wing and come off easily. Touching the wings of a butterfly may harm the butterfly.

Instruction:
1. Decorate tissue paper.
2. Accordion fold tissue paper.
3. While pinching the center arrange tissue paper into ‘wings.
4. Center clothespin slit on the folded tissue paper.
5. Wrap chenille stem around the ‘head’ of the clothespin and shape into antenna.
6. Draw eyes and mouth on the flat end of the clothespin.

Skills: folding, assembly
Vocabulary: accordion fold, delicate, wing scale