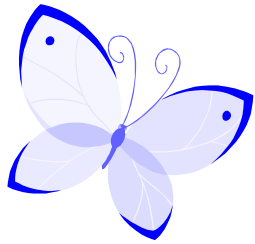


Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date : \_\_\_\_\_

### The Glasswing Butterfly

A. Read the story. Then complete the activity.



A bird flying above is looking for insects to eat. It looks very hard but it does not see the little butterfly hiding below. Because this butterfly has wings like glass!

The Glasswing Butterfly is found in South America between Mexico and Panama. Like many butterflies, the Glasswing likes to visit and eat from flowers. It prefers to lay its eggs on the cestrum flower that looks like a trumpet. When the eggs mature the small silver butterfly larvae appears. Because of the silver color the Glasswing has another name in Costa Rica, “little mirror”.

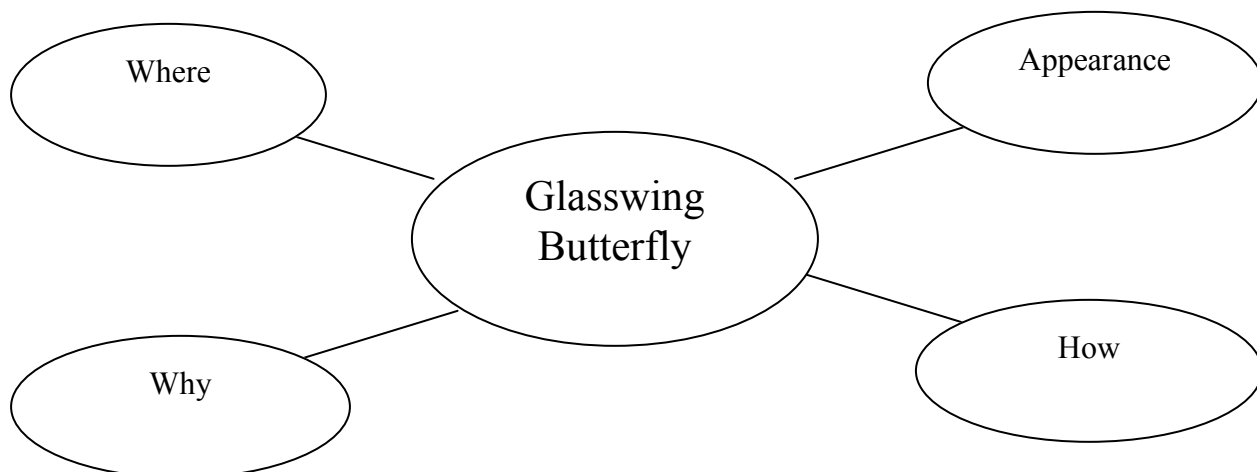
The wing of the Glasswing is not completely transparent. The edges are dark and the center is clear. This hides the butterfly from hungry predators. If the Glasswing is caught, it is not a delicious treat. The butterflies turn the flowers they eat into a toxin with a bad taste. This toxin is also poisonous to birds and other predators.

The bad taste and clear wings keep the Glasswing butterfly safe from harm. The bird above will have to look for something else to eat.

A. Choose the best title for the story.

- A. Butterfly with Wings of Glass
- B. How to Avoid Birds
- C. Butterflies of South America

B. Read the story. Write details about the butterfly in the chart.



C. What else do you know about butterflies? Discuss what you know with your friends.