Butterflies Below Zero



Stella Santa Cruz

Paula Hatton

Nelson Literacy Directions

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CENGAGE Learning

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Reading Age: 9.4–9.7
Text Type: Narrative

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Written by Stella Santa Cruz
Illustrated by Paula Hatton

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Meet the Characters



Lucas Morpho
A butterfly expert.



Lucia Morpho
A butterfly expert's wife.



Dr Stinson
A butterfly expert's boss.



Kelly Morpho
A butterfly expert's twin daughter.



Fifi Morpho
A butterfly expert's other twin daughter.

POSTCARD

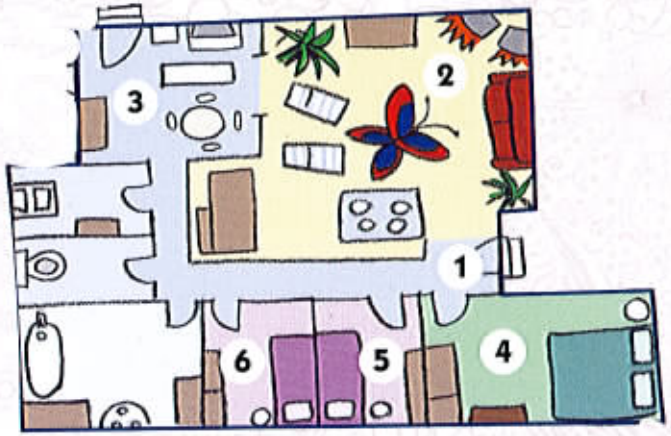
Dear Reader

Here's a great idea for a tropical holiday without even going to the airport! I got the idea when I visited a butterfly sanctuary in a very cold part of the country. It was freezing outside – but in the sanctuary, hundreds of brightly coloured butterflies were enjoying beautiful hot weather. Lucky them!

Stella Santa Cruz
Author

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The Morpho House



1. Hallway
2. Lounge
3. Kitchen
4. Lucas and Lucia's room
5. Kelly's room
6. Fifi's room

1 A Butterfly Expert



Lucas Morpho loved butterflies. He studied them carefully. He collected them eagerly. He taught about them enthusiastically. Like a proud parent, he watched over the eggs, caterpillars and cocoons in his lab until they turned into butterflies.

On a trip to South America, Lucas Morpho had even found a new kind of butterfly. He named it after his wife and twin girls.



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"It's called *Papilio luciakellyfifius*," he said, showing them a photo.

His wife, Lucia, who had been hoping Lucas would bring her some pretty jewellery when he returned, smiled. Kelly and Fifi, who had hoped their dad would bring back some ponchos for them, rolled their eyes.

"Thanks Dad," they said.



Winter arrived early, with grey clouds and icy winds. Lucas Morpho didn't like winter. With snow on the ground, there were no butterflies to be found. Kelly and Fifi didn't like it either. It was no fun going to school on frosty, below-zero mornings.

"We need a holiday," Lucia said one morning, as she packed the girls' lunches.



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