Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will create a beautiful butterfly finger painting using symmetry, while learning about butterfly shapes and colors. The student will also develop fine motor skills through finger painting and explore the concept of symmetry in art.

Materials and Prep

- Finger paint in various colors
- White paper (preferably thick paper)
- Paper towels for cleaning fingers
- Water for rinsing fingers
- Smock or old shirt to protect clothing

Before the lesson, set up a clean workspace where the student can freely paint without worrying about making a mess. Ensure the finger paints are easily accessible and ready to use.

Activities

• Butterfly Shape Exploration:

Start by discussing the shape of a butterfly. Ask the student to look at pictures of butterflies or even outside if possible. Then, have them use their fingers to create a butterfly shape on the paper by painting one side, then folding the paper to create the other side using symmetry.

• Color Mixing Play:

Encourage the student to mix different colors of finger paint to create unique shades for their butterfly. This activity will help them understand how colors can blend and enhance their artwork.

• Symmetry Challenge:

Once the butterfly is painted, have the student fold the paper in half to see how the paint creates a symmetrical design. Discuss what symmetry means and how it is used in nature.

• Story Time:

After painting, read a short story about butterflies or nature. This will help connect their artwork to the real world and inspire them to think about the beauty of butterflies.

Talking Points

- "What colors do you think butterflies can be? Let's use those colors!"
- "Can you see how your butterfly looks the same on both sides? That's called symmetry!"
- "How does it feel to paint with your fingers? Is it fun?"
- "What happens when we mix these two colors? Let's see!"
- "Did you know that butterflies are found all over the world? What do you like most about them?"
- "Can you tell me a story about your butterfly? What does it like to do?"