

Dear Science 21 Users,

Karina Franke is an unusually talented and committed fourth grade student from the Furnace Woods Elementary School in the Hendrick Hudson School District. I was informed of Karina's work through Judith Enck, the New York State Deputy Secretary for the Environment, along with other State Education Department officials and politicians.

In 2006, Karina met with State Assemblywoman, Sandy Galef, suggesting that there be a contest among New York school children to name a State Butterfly. Karina launched a campaign to select the Karner blue. Although, the Karner blue lost the vote by a slim margin, undaunted Karina went further to conduct an awareness program among State officials about the plight of this endangered species.

Karina has developed a Learning Tool and Resource Guide about the Karner blue. It is a truly amazing piece of work and will be of use to all Science 21 teachers, and especially Grade Three teachers whose students study the Painted Lady Butterfly.

Just as Science 21 is a program developed "for teachers by teachers," this section of our website is "for kids by kids." We hope that, in the future, students will interact learn from one another via our website. (All submissions, on our direct website, must be approved in advance.)

I know that you will be just as impressed with Karina's contributions as I am!

Abby B. Bergman,
Science 21 Coordinator



Click on the butterfly to view the guide:



Making the Karner Connection: A Karner Blue Learning Tool & Activity Guide