



2 - 3 cm wingspan

Chequered Copper Butterfly

The Chequered Copper is a beautiful, small butterfly with orange and brown chequered wings. It's a rare South Australian species and has a very special connection to native ants and plants.

Lifecycle



Photographer: Gregg Cote

Eggs are laid on the native sorrel (*Oxalis perennans*) leaves.



Photographer: Gregg Cote

Ants herd the caterpillar to its favourite food and in return they get a sweet drink of honeydew, then they pupate in the ant nest.



Photographer: Hayley Muford

Adult butterflies feed on nectar from many different types of flowers.



Photographer: Gregg Cote

This male butterfly lived in Beaumont Common, one of our parks.

Interesting Fact

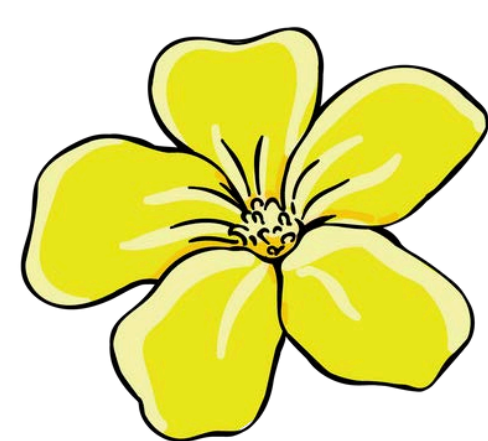
Chequered Copper caterpillars have ant bodyguards!

How can you help?

Plant native sorrel and flowering local native plants in your garden.

What does it do?

Caterpillar eats:
Oxalis perennans
(native sorrel)

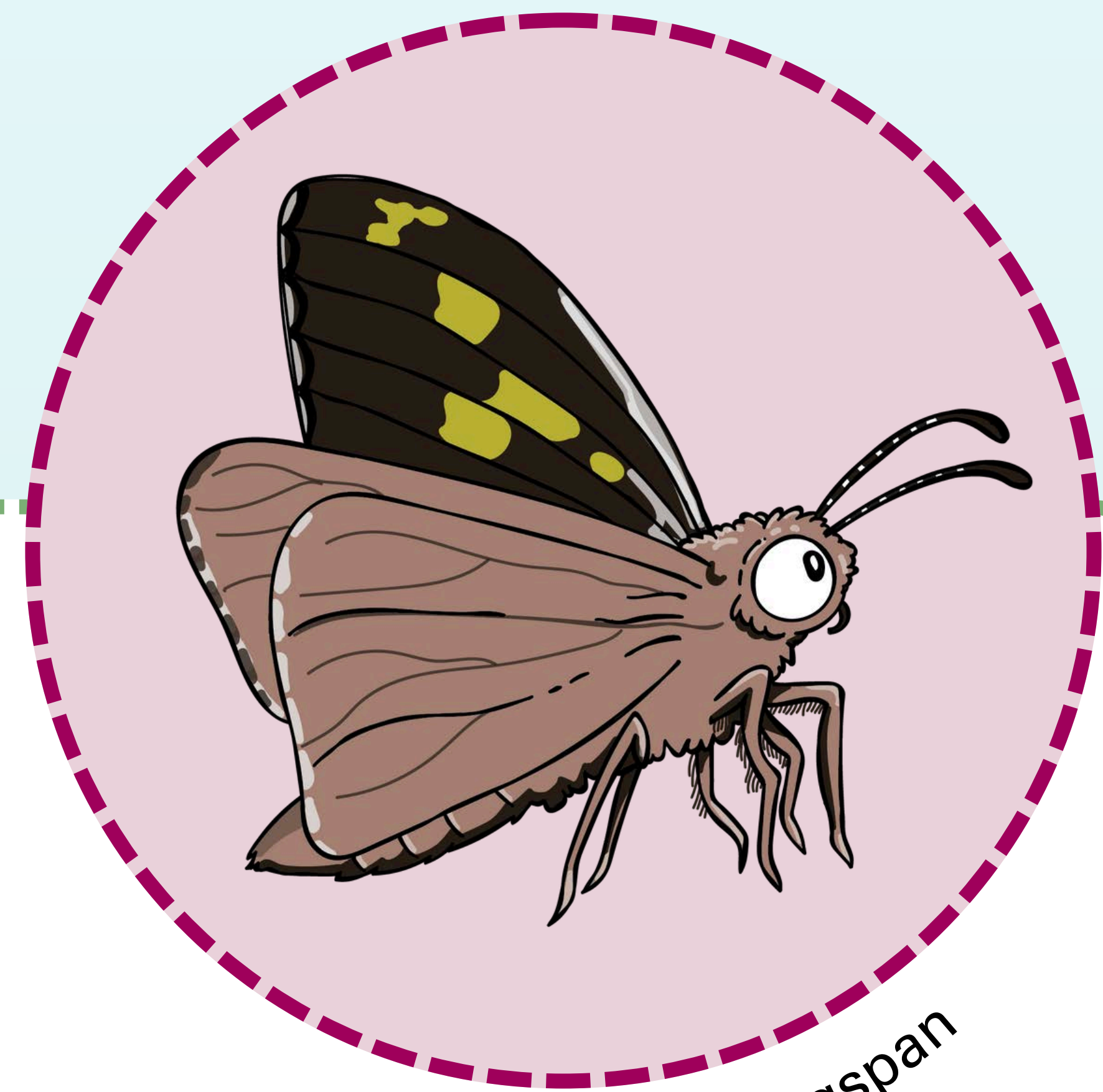


Butterfly drinks:
Nectar from
native flowers



Scan to watch
a video!





3 - 4 cm wingspan

Flame Sedge-skipper

The Flame Sedge-skipper is a rare and beautiful native butterfly found in the southern most part of Burnside, towards Mt Lofty. It's named for its fiery colouring and its fast, skipping flight.

Lifecycle

1



Photograph: Bowerbird

Egg - Laid on the long leaves of local native plants called cutting grass (*Gahnia*).

2

Caterpillar - Hatches and munches on the leaf, then makes a shelter by folding it with silk.

3

Pupa - Stays safely inside its leafy hideaway while it transforms.

4



Photographer: Deb Oliver

Adult butterfly - Pops out in warmer months, skips low through the grass, finds a mate, and starts the cycle again!

Interesting Fact

These butterflies don't fly far or high, they usually stay close to their host plants, *Gahnia*.

How can you help?

Protect and plant *Gahnia trifida* or *Gahnia sieberiana* in your local area.

What does it do?

Caterpillar lives:
Inside *Gahnia*
plants



Butterfly eats:
Flower nectar



Scan to watch
a video!

