What You Need:

**Equipment:**
1. "Deco Dragonfly" base measuring: (30.5cm x 45.7cm = 12 x 18 inches)
2. Glass tile cutter (wheeled nippers)
3. Container for mixing your grout
4. Cloth and sponge for wiping off the grout
5. Latex gloves for grouting
6. Carbon paper and pencil for tracing the pattern onto the container.
7. Old paintbrush to use to coat the tiles with glue.
8. Paintbrush for painting on underside

**Materials:**
1. Wood varnish if you do not want to paint the back.
2. Iridescent tiles (1.5cm x 1.5cm = 0.6 x 0.6 inches)
   - 100 tiles
   - 75 tiles
   - Miniature glass tiles (1cm x 1cm = 0.4 inches)
   - 23 tiles
   - 30 tiles
   - 20 tiles
   - 60 tiles
   - Black glass tile: 2 tiles (2.5cm x 2.5cm = 1 x 1 inch)
3. Wood glue / WeldBond
4. Light grey grout or white grout with light grey acrylic paint.
5. White PVA paint and a form of glazecote
How To:

1. Using carbon paper, trace your pattern onto the butterfly base, go over it with a black marker or pencil.

2. Cut your opalescent tiles into triangles and then halve them into smaller triangles. Stick them down on the edges following the curves of the wings.

3. Here you can see what your top wing will look like.

4. Start filling in with the small triangles. Try keep the same spacing (interstices) between the tiles.

5. Top wing done! Now tile the other.

6. Cut your mini glass tiles in half, so that you have rectangles and lay them row by row. I started from the bottom. If you look closely, I shaped them to follow the curves.

7. For the thorax section, I cut the mini glass tiles with glass nippers into half so that they formed rectangles again. Lay them down so that they follow the curve. Try keep the spacing between the tiles the same.

8. If you look closely, I cut shaped some tiles on the side to accommodate the difference there is with the curve of the body.

9. Cut your mini glass tiles into rectangles and lay them alternating in colour in the different blocks of the tail. Try follow the curves.
How To:

10. Finish off the tail.

11. For the head, I lay a triangle at the base and start laying square tiles cut at slight angles to accommodate the curve.

12. As you can see, I follow the curve the whole way around, ending off with a triangle again.

13. Fill in your second row, note the curve becomes more acute so the angles you will cut will be more acute.

14. Fill in your middle section of the head, with 2 triangles and a square.

15. Shape your black tile into a triangle. This is a great exercise to practise. Look at the shape you have to fill and cut the tile to match the shape.

16. Cut your blue opalescent tiles into triangles and then halve them again into smaller triangles. Follow the same process as with the top wing.

17. All finished tiling. Your piece should look something like this.

17. I mixed dark grey grout, but looking back on the project, I would have grouted the piece with white. Whichever you choose, mix the grout with water until the consistency is that of thick peanut butter.
19. Mix to the consistency of thick peanut butter and make sure that there are no lumps. I use a wooden tongue depressor to mix and spread my grout.

20. Spread your grout on and then use your fingers to make sure that you have got it into every nook and cranny. Take a little grout and spread it around the edges, making sure that it gets in between the tiles.

21. Once it has developed a “haze” you can start wiping it off with kitchen towels. Give it a couple of hours to dry then take a soft cloth and buff the piece up.

22. All finished. Take some grey (or white) acrylic paint depending on what colour you grouted and paint the sides to finish off your piece.