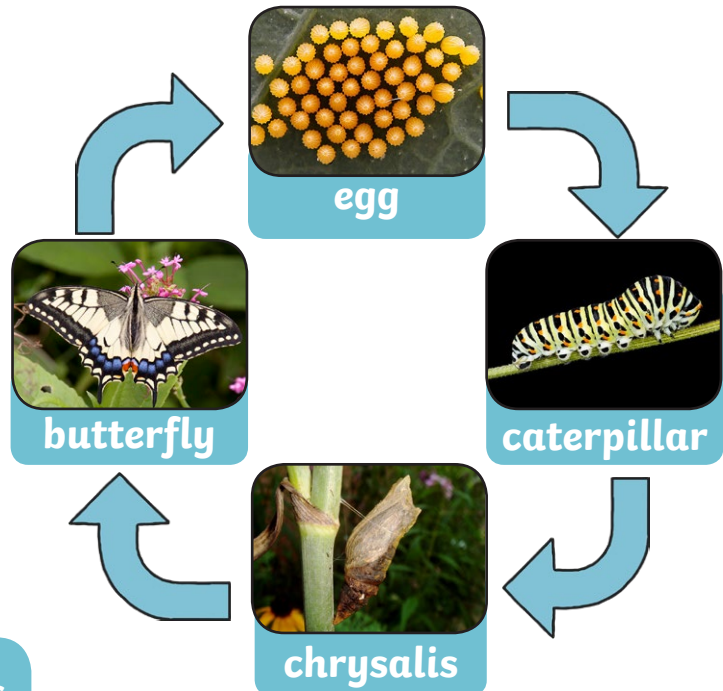


The Life Cycle of a Butterfly

The life cycle of a butterfly is amazing.

From Egg to Caterpillar

- A butterfly lays her eggs on a leaf or the stem of a plant.
- Tiny caterpillars grow inside the eggs.
- When a caterpillar is ready, it eats its way out of the egg.



From Caterpillar to Chrysalis

- When the caterpillar is fully grown, it changes itself into a chrysalis.
- A chrysalis is the stage that happens to the insect after it is a caterpillar, but before it becomes a butterfly.
- The caterpillar changes into a butterfly inside the chrysalis.

From Chrysalis to Butterfly

- When the butterfly is ready, the chrysalis splits open and the butterfly crawls out.
- The butterfly needs to wait until its wings are dry before it can fly.
- The butterfly will find a mate and the life cycle will start again!

Fun Fact!

- Butterflies drink, rather than eat.
- They will drink nectar from flowers and sweet liquid from fruit.

Photo courtesy of Walter Baxter, Rlevse, Tony Hisgett, Didier Descouens (@geograph.org, wikimeida.commons) - granted under creative commons licence - attribution

Questions

1. Where do butterflies lay their eggs? Tick one.

- on a leaf or stem of a plant
- on the ground
- on a tree trunk

2. How does a caterpillar get out of its egg?

3. When the caterpillar is fully grown, what does it do? Tick one.

- it turns into a butterfly
- it sheds its skin
- it changes itself into a chrysalis

4. Draw a line to complete the sentences.

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| The caterpillar changes into a butterfly | inside the eggs. |
| Butterflies drink, | inside the chrysalis. |
| Tiny caterpillars grow | rather than eat. |

5. Complete this sentence.

The butterfly needs to wait until its wings are dry before it can

grow

fly

hatch