

Animal Life Cycles — Comparison of Three Life Cycles

Base Sheet

Activity Sheet

The child compares the life cycles of a butterfly (complete metamorphosis), a frog (gradual metamorphosis), and a chicken (direct development). This comparison deepens understanding of how different animals grow and change.

What You Need:

- Life cycle figures or picture cards (butterfly, frog, chicken)
- Large paper for comparison chart
- Crayons or markers
- Work mat

Steps:

1. 'We have studied animal life cycles before. Today let's COMPARE three different ones!'
2. Butterfly: egg, caterpillar (larva), chrysalis (pupa), butterfly. 'Complete metamorphosis — it changes COMPLETELY!'
3. Frog: egg, tadpole, tadpole with legs, froglet, frog. 'Gradual metamorphosis — it changes step by step.'
4. Chicken: egg, chick, adult chicken. 'The baby looks like a small version of the adult — no big transformation.'
5. Draw all three life cycles side by side on one large paper.
6. 'Which animal changes the most? Which changes the least?'
7. 'What do all three have in common?' (All start with eggs, all grow, all become adults.)

Work Space:

