

Reading Passage: The Life Cycle of a Butterfly(Science 3)

Butterflies are beautiful insects that go through an amazing transformation during their lives. This process is called metamorphosis. The life cycle of a butterfly has four stages: egg, caterpillar, pupa, and adult butterfly.

The first stage is the egg. A mother butterfly lays tiny eggs on the leaves of plants. Inside each egg, a tiny caterpillar is growing.

The second stage is the caterpillar, also known as a larva. When the caterpillar hatches from the egg, it starts eating the leaves of the plant. The caterpillar eats and eats, growing bigger and bigger. It sheds its skin several times as it grows.

The third stage is the pupa, also called a chrysalis. The caterpillar forms a shell around itself. Inside the shell, the caterpillar is changing into a butterfly. This stage can last from a few weeks to several months.

The fourth and final stage is the adult butterfly. The butterfly breaks out of the chrysalis and dries its wings. Once the wings are dry, the butterfly can fly. Adult butterflies drink nectar from flowers and continue the life cycle by laying eggs.

Butterflies are important because they help pollinate flowers, just like bees do. They also add beauty to our gardens and nature.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is the first stage of a butterfly's life cycle?
 - a) Caterpillar
 - b) Egg
 - c) Pupa
 - d) Butterfly
2. Where does a mother butterfly lay her eggs?
 - a) On the ground
 - b) In the water
 - c) On the leaves of plants
 - d) In the air
3. What is another name for the caterpillar stage?
 - a) Egg
 - b) Larva
 - c) Pupa
 - d) Butterfly
4. What does a caterpillar eat?
 - a) Nectar
 - b) Flowers
 - c) Leaves
 - d) Fruit
5. What happens to the caterpillar as it grows?
 - a) It changes color
 - b) It sheds its skin
 - c) It stops eating
 - d) It flies away

6. What is the third stage of a butterfly's life cycle?
 - a) Egg
 - b) Caterpillar
 - c) Pupa
 - d) Adult butterfly
7. What is the pupa stage also called?
 - a) Larva
 - b) Chrysalis
 - c) Egg
 - d) Cocoon
8. How long can the pupa stage last?
 - a) A few minutes
 - b) A few hours
 - c) A few days
 - d) A few weeks to several months
9. What does an adult butterfly drink?
 - a) Water
 - b) Nectar
 - c) Milk
 - d) Juice
10. Why are butterflies important?
 - a) They make honey
 - b) They help pollinate flowers
 - c) They eat harmful insects
 - d) They clean the air

Answers and Explanations

1. **b) Egg**

Explanation: The first stage of a butterfly's life cycle is the egg.

2. **c) On the leaves of plants**

Explanation: A mother butterfly lays her eggs on the leaves of plants.

3. **b) Larva**

Explanation: Another name for the caterpillar stage is larva.

4. **c) Leaves**

Explanation: A caterpillar eats leaves.

5. **b) It sheds its skin**

Explanation: As a caterpillar grows, it sheds its skin several times.

6. **c) Pupa**

Explanation: The third stage of a butterfly's life cycle is the pupa.

7. **b) Chrysalis**

Explanation: The pupa stage is also called a chrysalis.

8. **d) A few weeks to several months**

Explanation: The pupa stage can last from a few weeks to several months.

9. **b) Nectar**

Explanation: An adult butterfly drinks nectar from flowers.

10. **b) They help pollinate flowers**

Explanation: Butterflies are important because they help pollinate flowers, just like bees.