

Insect Life Cycle Challenge :



Most insects have a 4 stage life cycle: THE EGG, THE LARVAE, THE PUPA, and THE ADULT. They change through these stages by a process called **metamorphosis**.

Use the diagram below to help you **create your own insect and its life cycle**. Describe where your insect might live and what it eats during each stage of the life cycle.

Things to think about as you're creating you insect:

- Remember that insects have 6 legs and bodies with 3 segments.
- Where does your insect live during each life stage? Land, Water, Underground?
- Choose what your insect eats during each life stage. Is it a predator? Does it drink nectar? Does it eat leaves?
- How does your insect move? Is it a climber? Does it fly? Does it swim?
- Does it use bright colors as a warning to predators or does it camouflage?

Monarch Butterfly Life Cycle

Pupa (Chrysalis)

The caterpillar then transforms into a pupa. The caterpillar is protected in a case as it transforms into a butterfly.

The pupa starts as a jade color and becomes clear as the butterfly is formed.

Once fully formed, the butterfly emerges from the chrysalis.

Larvae (Caterpillar)

This stage is devoted to eating in order to gain energy for **metamorphosis**.

The monarch caterpillar only eats milkweed. Milkweed is toxic to most animals, and this caterpillar retains the toxins in their bodies. It has bright yellow colors to warn predators.

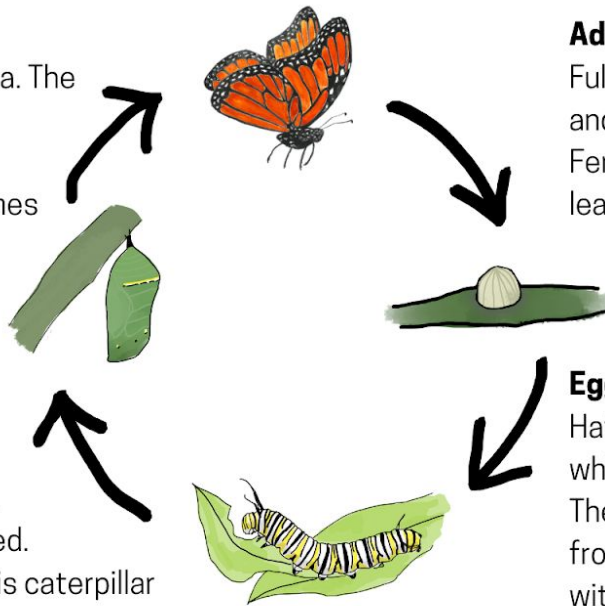
Adult

Full grown adults have wings and feed on flower nectar.

Females lay a single egg on a leaf of a milkweed plant.

Egg

Hatches into tiny **larvae**, which grows into a caterpillar. The larvae looks very different from the adult insect, usually with many legs and a worm-like body



**Draw your insect and their life cycle here:
(don't forget to give your new species a name!)**

