

Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Ask & Answer Questions

Read the short story and answer each question.



How Butterflies Grow

Butterflies go through four stages in their life cycle.

First, a butterfly lays tiny eggs on a leaf. Soon, a small caterpillar hatches from the egg. This is the larva stage.

Next, the caterpillar eats and grows. When it is ready, it forms a hard shell called a chrysalis. This is the pupa stage.

Inside the chrysalis, big changes happen. The caterpillar turns into a butterfly! This is called metamorphosis.

Finally, the butterfly comes out with wings. It flies away to find flowers and lay eggs. The life cycle begins again.

Name: _____

How Butterflies Grow

1. What is the first stage of a butterfly's life cycle?

- A. An adult butterfly flies
- B. A caterpillar eats leaves
- C. A butterfly lays eggs
- D. A chrysalis hangs from a tree

2. What happens during the pupa stage?

- A. The caterpillar eats more leaves
- B. The butterfly lays eggs
- C. The insect rests inside a chrysalis and changes
- D. The egg hatches into a butterfly

3. Fill in the blank:

A butterfly begins life as a tiny _____.

4. How do butterflies change from caterpillars to flying insects?

5. Why is the butterfly life cycle described as a cycle?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: K

Lexile Level: 330L-480L

Grade Level: 2nd Grade, Beginning of the Year

Genre: Informational (Life Cycle/Science)

Introducing the Text

“Today we’ll learn about how butterflies grow and change. As we read, we’ll ask and answer questions like *who*, *what*, *where*, *when*, *why*, and *how* to help us understand each part of the butterfly’s life cycle.”

Vocabulary: egg, larva, chrysalis, pupa, metamorphosis

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do you know about butterflies?
 2. Have you ever seen a caterpillar turn into a butterfly?
 3. What does the word “cycle” make you think of?
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During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What are the four stages in the butterfly life cycle?
 2. How does the chrysalis help the butterfly grow?
 3. What happens after the butterfly comes out?
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After Reading Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think butterflies lay eggs on leaves?
 2. What’s the most surprising part of the butterfly life cycle?
 3. How could asking questions help you remember this process?
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Activity Idea

Have students create a butterfly life cycle wheel using paper plates. Divide the plate into four sections (egg, larva, pupa, adult). In each section, they will draw the stage and write one question and answer about it. Once completed, they can spin the wheel and quiz a partner on each stage.

