



Butterflies Study Lessons

Websites

[One... Two... Three... Grow!](#)

Can you beat the clock and match-up the animal life stages before your time runs out? In this game children move three small pictures to make a big, whole picture. The big picture shows an animal at a different stage in its life, from a little baby to a fully grown adult.

(<http://www.arkive.org/education/games/one-two-three-grow>)

[Animal Life Cycles](#)

This website provides basic background information of different life cycles, as well as printable worksheets for complete and incomplete metamorphosis, and life cycle worksheets for arthropods, birds, fish, mammals, and reptiles.

(<http://www.kidzone.ws/animals/lifecycle.htm>)

[Cycles of Life](#)

Children can click and drag pictures into the correct order of their lifecycles using this interactive website.

(http://teams.lacoe.edu/documentation/classrooms/judi/life/activities/cycles/life_cycles.html)

[Life Cycle \(Games and Video\)](#)

Children help a parrot, a butterfly and a frog complete their life cycles on this interactive website. In addition, a short, child-appropriate movie also reviews the life cycles of different organisms.

(http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/scienceforkids/life_cycle/index.htm)

[KidsKonnnect.com – Life Cycles](#)

This website offers background information on life cycles as well as links to various life cycle resources.

(<http://www.kidskonnnect.com/subject-index/15-science/87-life-cycles.html>)

[ARKive Education](#)

ARKive's free fun-packed teaching resources cover a range of key science and biology subjects including: adaptation, food chains, Darwin and natural selection, classification, identification, conservation and biodiversity.

(<http://www.arkive.org/education/resources>)



Build Your Own Caterpillar

What does a caterpillar need in order to fit into its environment and survive in the Costa Rican rain forest? Build a specialized caterpillar that fits the scene and at the end of the activity, you can print out your creations!

(http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/explorer/ecosystems/be_an_explorer/map/form_caterpillars.htm)

Enchanted Learning

This link contains directions for completing a number of arts and crafts activities related to butterflies and caterpillars. It includes quizzes about butterflies and printouts for children to color. It also contains illustrations of a wide variety of butterflies. Finally, it includes general information about butterflies and details about their life cycles and anatomy.

(<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/themes/butterfly.shtml>)

The Emergence of a Monarch

This link reveals the step-by-step emergence of a Monarch butterfly from its chrysalis through beautiful, close-up, color pictures.

(<http://adver-net.com/Monemerg.html>)



Butterflies Study Lessons

Books

Life Cycles: General

If My Mom Were a Platypus: Animal Babies and Their Mothers

By Dia L. Michels; illustrated by Andrew Barthelmes. (2005, Platypus Media)

With one chapter devoted to each of 14 different mammals, this book tells about how each featured species is born, eats, grows, learns, and matures. Each chapter is told from the point of view of the baby mammal and is filled with fascinating facts.

Life Cycles of a Dozen Diverse Creatures

By Paul Fleisher. (1998, Millbrook Press)

Compares and contrasts the life cycles of twelve animals, including the opossum, bullfrog, and jellyfish. This book might be too advanced for some second graders to read by themselves, but works well when read aloud to the class.

Lifetimes

By David L. Rice; illustrated by Michael S. Maydak. (1997, Dawn Publications)

Introduces some of nature's longest, shortest, and most unusual life cycles.

What Is a Life Cycle? (Science of Living Things)

By Bobby Kalman and Jacqueline Langille. (1998, Crabtree)

Introduces the life cycles of plants, insects, amphibians, reptiles, fish, birds, mammals, and humans, and discusses their birth, growth, parental care, and reproduction.



Butterflies

Fish is Fish

By Leo Lionni. (1995, Scholastic)

A fish and a tadpole are friends. The tadpole changes into a frog while the fish is left behind in the pond. The story gives an elegant contrast between metamorphic (frog) and non-metamorphic (fish) life cycles.

A Monarch Butterfly's Life

By John Himmelman. (2000, Children's Press)

This picture book provides a description of the stages in the life cycle of a monarch butterfly. It also tells the story of the monarch's long migratory journey.

The Ugly Ducking

By Hans Christian Anderson (many versions in and out of print)

This famous folktale of the ugly child who grows into a beautiful adult, while not actually a biological metamorphosis, conveys a related meaning of the term metamorphosis—the idea of transformation through personal growth.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar

By Eric Carle. (2009, Philomel)

This beautifully illustrated book follows a ravenous caterpillar's feeding frenzy through the days of the week. This is a nice butterfly metamorphosis story to share with young readers.

Waiting for Wings

By Lois Ehlert. (2001, Harcourt, Inc.)

This beautifully illustrated and creatively designed book shows the life cycle and survival needs of a butterfly from its inception as an egg to its final stage as an adult laying its own eggs. At the end of the book, there are colorful illustrations of a wide variety of butterflies as well the flowers they like to feast on.