

CATERPILLAR to BUTTERFLY

A complete lifecycle unit



FROM CATERPILLAR TO BUTTERFLY JOURNAL

Name: _____

Let's review

Match the parts of the caterpillar's body with its job.

front legs	help them smell
back legs	make it hard to get eaten
antennae	help them move and hold on
bristles	help it eat and spin silk
mouth	hold their food

Let's compare

I HAVE...	A CATERPILLAR HAS...
2 front legs	6 front legs
0 back legs	10 back legs
1 mouth	1 mouth
0 antennae	2 antennae
0 bristles	bristles

We both have similar mouths.

I do not have antennae.

CATERPILLARS

This is what I think a caterpillar looks like.

A caterpillar has...

- Some caterpillars have patterns
- small legs
- Some are posing



caterpillar

eggs

J hook

butterfly

chrysalis

antennae

3 body

2 sets of legs

lifecycle of a BUTTERFLY

egg

caterpillar

Butterfly Life cycle



FIRST GRADE
Rears

STUDENT JOURNAL

FROM CATERPILLAR BUTTERFLY JOURNAL

SCHEMA

(what you already know)

This is my schema about CATERPILLARS & BUTTERFLIES

Name: _____

Name: _____

This is what I think a caterpillar looks like.

A caterpillar has...

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Just arrived... Caterpillar food...

Today our caterpillars arrived!
Today's date: _____

The caterpillar came in a cup w/ inside. Let's explore the food!

Caterpillar Food

Feels like _____

Smells like _____

Looks like _____

Reminds me of _____

The caterpillar gets water from _____

The Food from a caterpillar comes from a plant called milkweed. A milkweed plant has green leaves and light purple flowers. Color and label the milkweed plant below.

Caring for our Caterpillar

We need to take care of our caterpillar. Here are some rules.

- Do not turn the cup upside down.
- Do not drop the caterpillar.
- Do not let the caterpillar get too hot or too cold.
- Observe the caterpillar with your eyes.

What will your caterpillar need to survive?

A caterpillar needs...

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

a Caterpillar's body

A caterpillar has several parts to their body. Each part helps them. Caterpillars have 6 **front legs** that hold their food. Their 10 **back legs** help them move and hold onto leaves. They have a special **mouth** that is perfect for eating leaves and spinning silk. On their back, they are covered with **bristles**. The bristles make it hard for a bird to eat a caterpillar! They have **antennae** to help them smell.

Label the caterpillar below.

Let's review

Match the parts of the caterpillar's body with its job.

front legs	help them smell
back legs	make it hard to get eaten
antennae	help them move and hold on
bristles	help it eat and spin silk
mouth	hold their food

Let's compare

I HAVE...	A CATERPILLAR HAS...
front legs	front legs
back legs	back legs
mouth	mouth
antennae	antennae
bristles	bristles

We are similar

We are different

a Caterpillar's skin

As you grow, your body grows with you. When a caterpillar grows, its skin does not grow. What do you think happens to the caterpillar's skin?

molting

As a caterpillar grows, it grows new skin. When it is too big for the old skin, it sheds it leaving the new skin exposed. During a caterpillar's two week period, it will shed its skin 5 times. This is called molting.

spinning silk

You may see webbing in your cup a caterpillars. This is silk that your caterpillars use to protect themselves from predators and to help in the plants they are living on. The wind sometimes blow them off of the leaves.

Can you name another animal that make silk?

Observation

Look in your cup of caterpillars. What do you see? Can you see any silken threads? Draw your observation below.

time for change

As the caterpillar grows, it will crawl to the top of the cup and build a strong silk button. Then it will hang upside down from the button. It will hang in the shape of a J-shape. Color your caterpillar hanging in a J-shape.

Something magical is about to happen. Can you guess what it is?

Chrysalis

After awhile, the skin on the caterpillar will split along its back. It is shedding its skin for the last time. Now you will see a hard shell. This is called a chrysalis.

The date my caterpillar became a chrysalis is _____

Observation

Look at your chrysalis. What do you see? Draw your observation below.

This is what I noticed when I observed the chrysalis.

I predict it will be a _____

BUTTERFLY

Today our butterflies emerged.

The date is _____

This is what my butterfly looks like.

time for change

The chrysalis has split open and the butterfly has come out. At first, the butterfly's wings are crumpled and wet. Soon they will dry out and straighten. The butterfly will be ready to fly.

How do you think a butterfly's wings help it survive?

a butterfly's body

Butterflies are insects. They have their body parts, a **head**, **thorax** and **abdomen**. They have 6 thin **legs**. They use their legs to taste their food. They use their legs to taste their food. They have 2 **antennae**. Their antennae help them feel and smell. They have colorful **wings**. Their wings help them fly from flower to flower to drink nectar. Their mouth has a straw like tube that is used to suck the nectar. It is called a **proboscis**.

Label the butterfly below.

Let's review

Match the parts of the butterfly's body with its job.

legs	drink nectar from flowers
wings	reach the nectar in the flower
antennae	feel and smell the food
proboscis	taste their food

Let's compare

I HAVE...	A BUTTERFLY HAS...
legs	legs
wings	wings
antennae	antennae
mouth	mouth

We are similar

We are different

Caring for your Butterfly

We need to take care of our butterfly. They will need to eat. You can feed them many ways. You can soak a sponge in sugar water and place it inside their home. They will use their proboscis to drink the sugar water. You could also put a living plant that has flowers and provides nectar. Make sure they have plenty of fresh air and space to fly. You don't want to keep them long. They need to be free to fly and explore.

How long??

Let's see how long each stage lasted:

caterpillar → chrysalis

Caterpillars arrived: _____

Changed into chrysalis on: _____

How many days for this change? _____

chrysalis → butterfly

Formed a chrysalis: _____

Butterflies emerged: _____

How many days for this change? _____

caterpillar → butterfly

How many days for this change? _____

Today we will let our butterflies go.

Today's date: _____

It is time for the butterfly to go explore the world around it. As it lands on flowers it will stick its pollen to its legs. It will help spread the pollen to other flowers causing **pollination**. Before long, the female butterfly will lay **eggs** on a plant. The eggs will grow for a few months. Soon **caterpillars** will hatch from the eggs. The whole **life cycle** will begin again. The change from caterpillar to butterfly is called **metamorphosis**.

lifecycle of a Butterfly

Butterfly life cycle

COLORFUL POSTERS



caterpillar



J hook



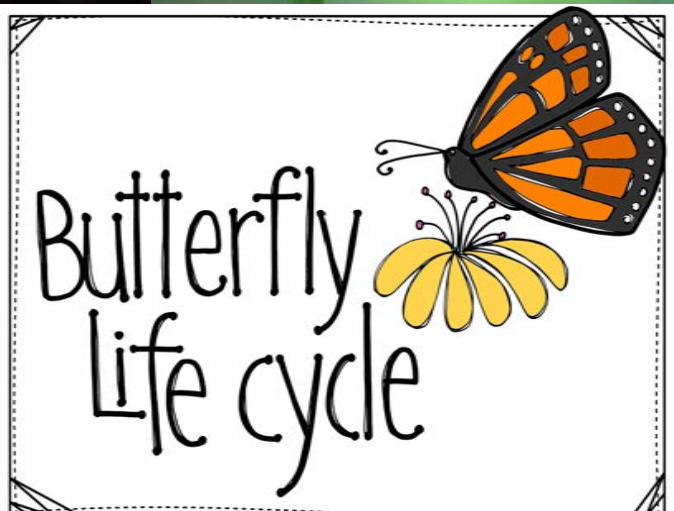
chrysalis



butterfly



eggs



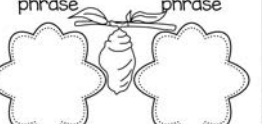
EXTRA GOODIES

Name: _____

Word of the Day

metamorphosis

How many syllables? _____
 synonym or antonym or
 phrase phrase



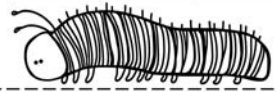
Use the word in a sentence.

Name: _____

MAKING WORDS

HOW TO USE ME: TAKE LETTERS TO USE

2 Letter words	3 Letter words	4 or more Letters



metamorphosis

Butterfly 

ASKING VS. TELLING SENTENCES

Add the correct punctuation. *?* or *?*

Did you see the caterpillar? _____
 What do butterflies eat? _____
 Caterpillars hatch from eggs. _____
 Where do butterflies live? _____
 There are many different butterflies. _____
 How many caterpillars are in the jar? _____
 Can a butterfly hop? _____
 Some butterflies migrate. _____
 A chrysalis is a changing caterpillar. _____

Name: _____

Butterfly SYLLABLES



butterfly	1	2	3	4	5
egg	1	2	3	4	5
pupa	1	2	3	4	5
chrysalis	1	2	3	4	5
cycle	1	2	3	4	5
insect	1	2	3	4	5
caterpillar	1	2	3	4	5
milkweed	1	2	3	4	5
molting	1	2	3	4	5
metamorphosis	1	2	3	4	5

Name: _____

My Opinion 

about having a pet
Butterfly

Name: _____

Caterpillar + Butterfly

egg caterpillar milkweed
 chrysalis metamorphosis
 butterfly life cycle insect

metamorphosis
 agfgihjkilponl
 zgwlerfytuisi
 vbnmkikjhgfe
 poiuwytrewqce
 asdfeghjkluft
 butterflyijklc
 zxcvdfghjkluc
 chrysaliserfll
 ccaterpillar

Name: _____

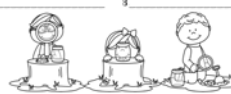
ALPHABETIZE

Put the insects in ABC order


egg caterpillar milkweed
 chrysalis metamorphosis
 butterfly life cycle insect

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

1 _____ 5 _____
 2 _____ 6 _____
 3 _____ 7 _____
 4 _____ 8 _____



Name: _____

My Opinion 

about having a pet
Butterfly

Name: _____

Opinion Prewriting

Insects
 Introduction

Circle your opinion.

I would **love** to have pet
 I would **not want** to have |

Middle: _____

BUTTERFLY



Butterfly Survey

Survey 12 classmates and tally their opinion.
 Would you like to have a pet butterfly?

Yes

No

Results 

What was the most popular vote?
 Which choice had the fewest votes?
 How many children did you survey?

Graph

Yes	
No	

All about BUTTERFLIES

 Name: _____ 

Butterflies can _____

Butterflies have _____

Butterflies are _____

Butterflies eat _____

Butterflies live _____

Butterflies never _____


All about 

have _____

Name: _____

CRafts

CATERPILLAR




Caterpillar

©Megan Mitchell First Grade Rooms

Name: _____

What I Learned

True	False
True	False
True	False
True	False
True	False
True	False
True	False
True	False
True	False
True	False



Name: _____