

A Butterfly's Life

by Linda Ruggieri



Butterflies are beautiful insects. You often see them around colorful flowers.

A butterfly's life begins in a special way. First, a mother butterfly lays an egg on a leaf. A caterpillar hatches from the egg. The caterpillar eats leaves and grows bigger.

Next, the caterpillar becomes a chrysalis (KRIS-a-liss). It makes a kind of hard shell that covers its whole body. During the time as a chrysalis, the caterpillar slowly changes. The parts of a butterfly begin to form, like the wings, legs, and antennae.

Weeks or months later, a new creature pops out of the chrysalis shell. It has become a butterfly! The butterfly flutters its wings and flies away.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What kind of animal is a butterfly?

- A. Butterflies are reptiles.
- B. Butterflies are insects.
- C. Butterflies are mammals.

2. The text describes the different steps in a butterfly's life.

What are butterflies when they first hatch?

- A. Butterflies hatch as caterpillars.
- B. Butterflies hatch as fully grown butterflies.
- C. Butterflies hatch as worms.

3. Read the following sentences from the text:

"A butterfly's life begins in a special way. First, a mother butterfly lays an egg on a leaf."

"During the time as a chrysalis, the caterpillar slowly changes. The parts of a butterfly begin to form, like the wings, legs, and antennae."

"Weeks or months later, a new creature pops out of the chrysalis shell. It has become a butterfly!"

Based on this information, where does the caterpillar turn into a butterfly?

- A. inside its shell as a chrysalis
- B. on a leaf near the mother butterfly
- C. inside the egg the mother butterfly lays

4. What is "A Butterfly's Life" mostly about?

- A. the life of a butterfly
- B. how butterflies lay eggs
- C. what butterflies eat

5. What can you often see butterflies around?

You can often see butterflies around

6. What did you learn from "A Butterfly's Life"?

7. Class Discussion Question: Use information from the text to summarize the steps in the life of a butterfly.

8. Draw a butterfly that has just emerged from its chrysalis shell.