Butterfly Life Cycle

Complete Unit for Special Education

By Christa Joy

Butterflies have a very interesting life cycle. They go through a process with a lot of changes called metamorphosis.

Caterpillars mainly eat fresh green leaves. They grow so much and so fast, their skin will actually split.

It can take 3-4 hours before the butterfly is ready to fly away.

36 page book

The adult female butterfly will lay a lot of eggs.

That is why caterpillars can come in some fairly bright colors. In the wild, bright colors mean danger, so birds think the caterpillar is poisonous.

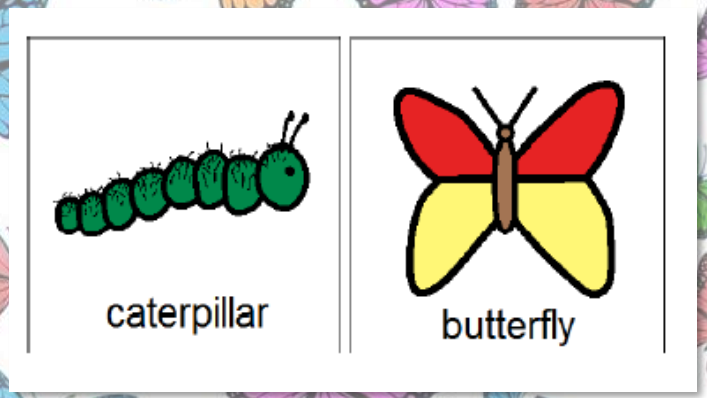
Here are some interesting facts about butterflies you may not know.

Vocabulary board

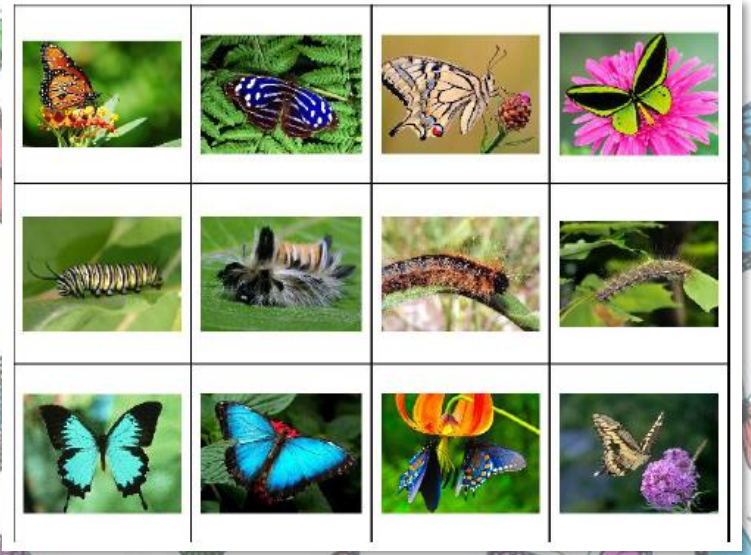
2 circle maps

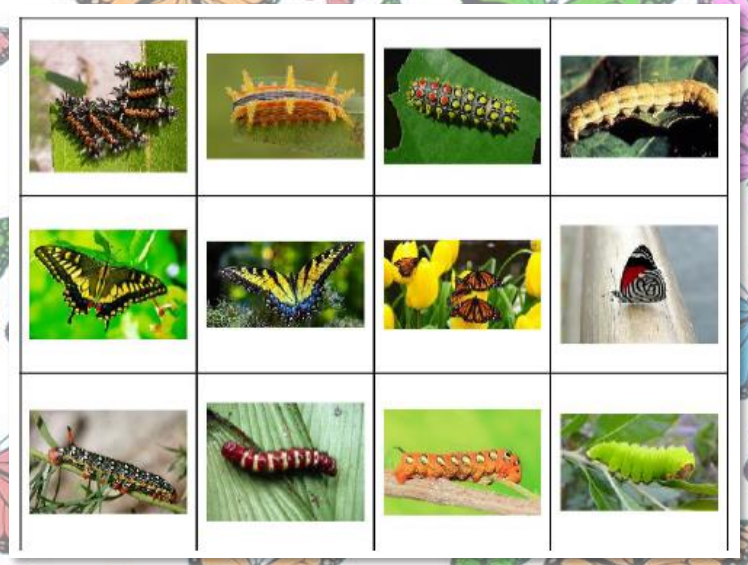
Cut apart pictures below and place in circle map on previous page ONLY if they are about caterpillars.

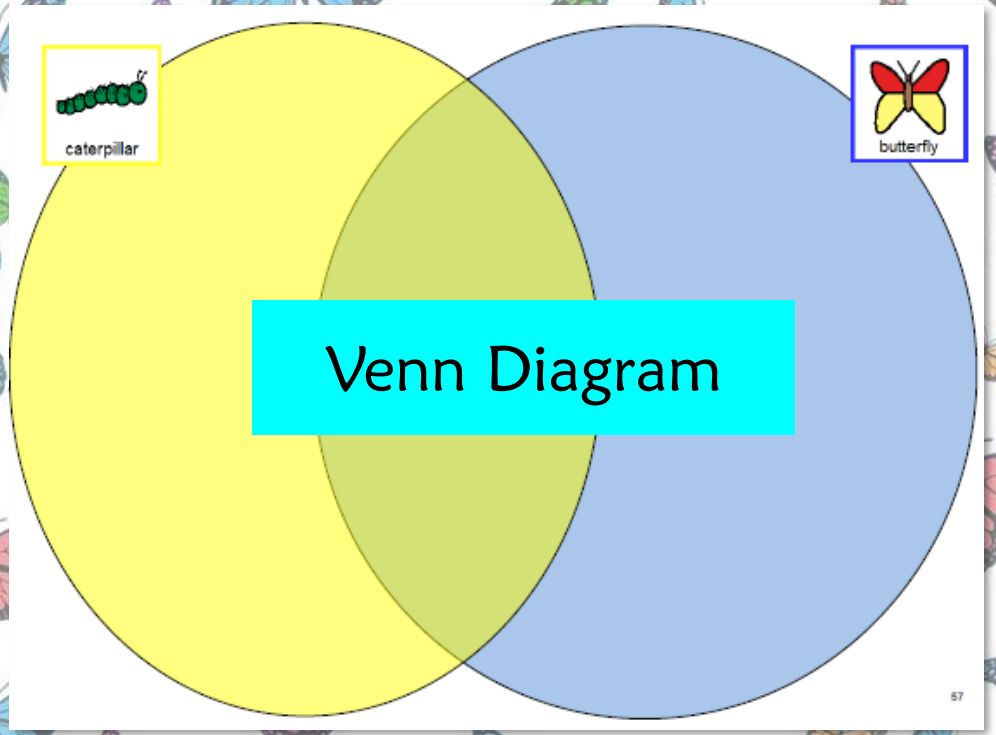
Errorless option



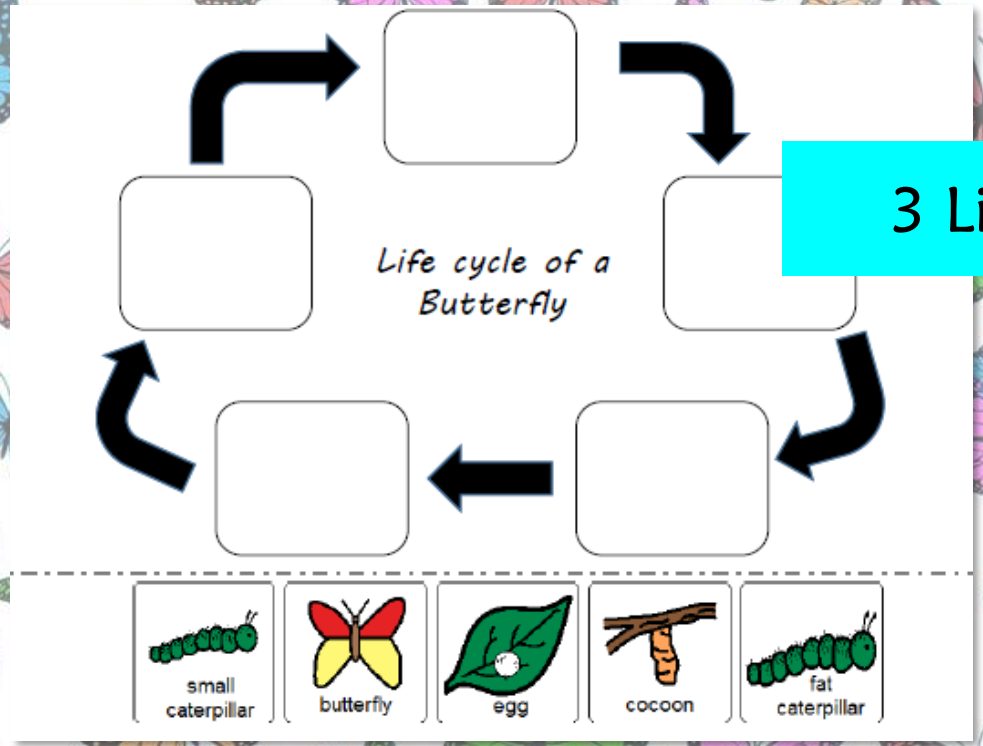
Sorting activity



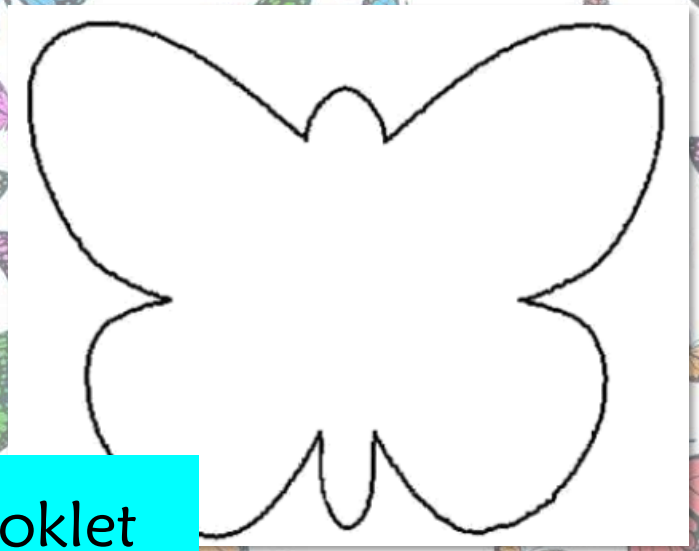




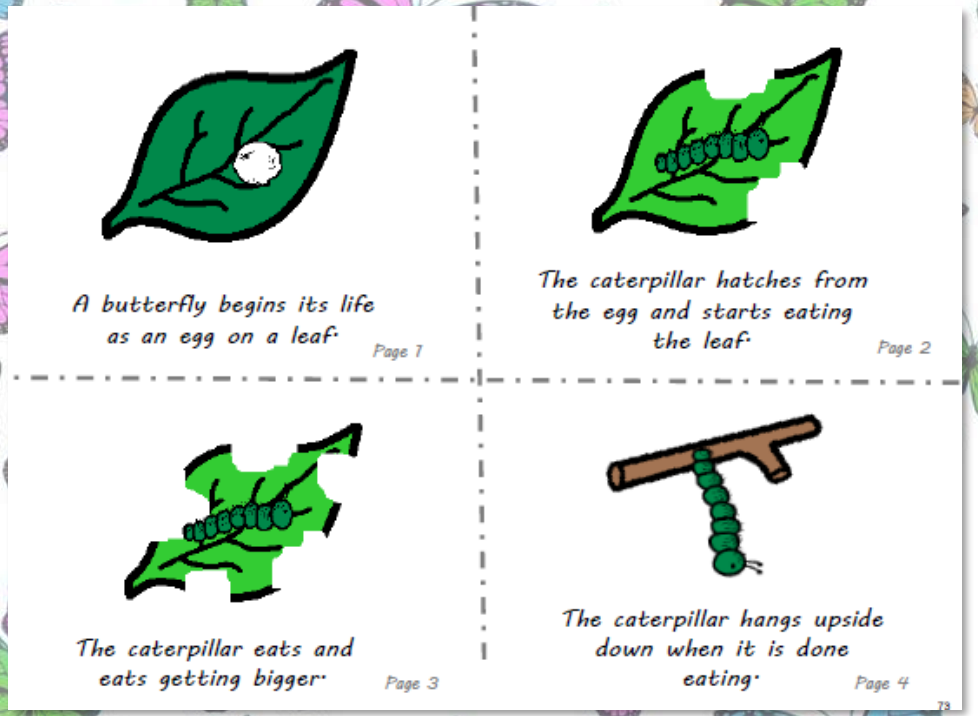
Color-coded option

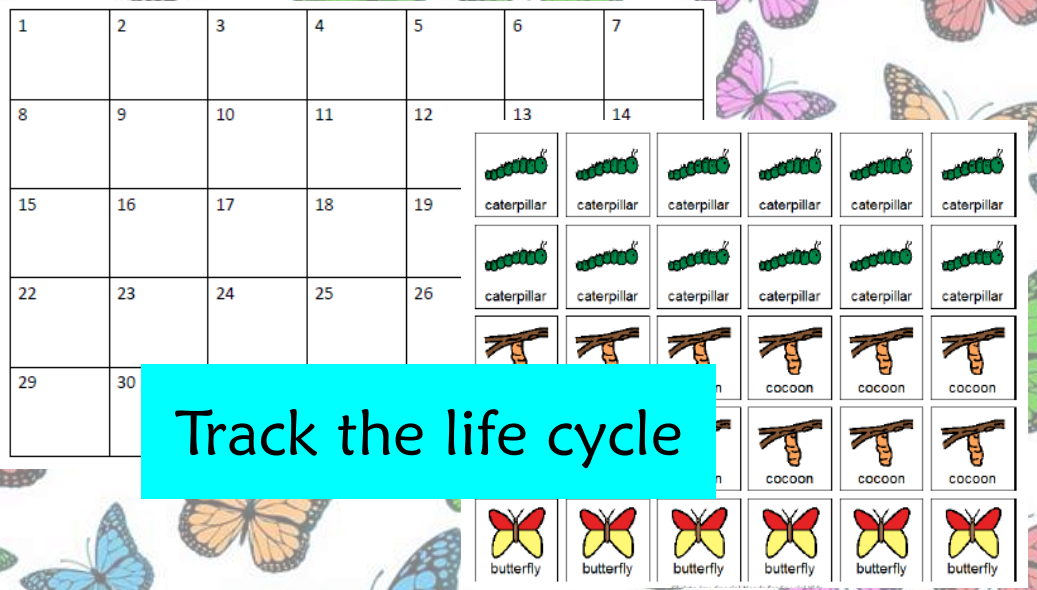


3 Life cycles



8 page booklet





Track the life cycle

Caterpillars

1. Caterpillars hatch from an [ ] laid by a [ ] .
2. Caterpillars spend most of their lives [ ] .
3. They grow so fast, they shed their [ ] 4-5 times.
4. Once it is done eating, the caterpillar will hang upside down from a [ ] .
5. The caterpillar forms a [ ] where it stays for 2 weeks before becoming a butterfly

2 Close worksheets

Caterpillars

Butterflies

1. Where does the butterfly lay an egg?

2. What do caterpillars eat?

3. Caterpillars grow so fast, what do they shed 4-5 times?

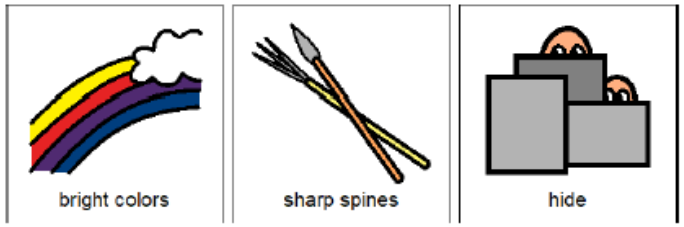
4. How do you know when a caterpillar is ready to make a cocoon?

5. About how long does the caterpillar stay in the cocoon?

2 Assessments

Q7

Q8



I may go to a new school.

Dealing with Change: Social story

But, sometimes no one knows a change is coming.

circle map

Errorless option