

FACTS  
CORNER

# The life cycle of a butterfly



4-10

**Listen. How many stages has a butterfly got in its life cycle?**

**What is the name for the changes in the life cycle of a butterfly?**

Poslušaj. Koliko stopenj ima metulj v svojem življenjskem krogu?  
Kakšno je poimenovanje za spremembe v življenjskem krogu metulja?



**Now read the text. Then look at the picture and read the sentences.**

**Which two sentences belong to each stage?**

Sedaj preberi besedilo. Nato si oglej sliko in preberi povedi.

Kateri dve povedi spadata k vsaki stopnji?

Butterflies go through four stages to grow into an adult butterfly. The life cycle of a butterfly may take from one month to a whole year – depending on the type of butterfly.

A butterfly lays eggs on the leaves of a plant. These eggs hatch and caterpillars come out of the eggs.

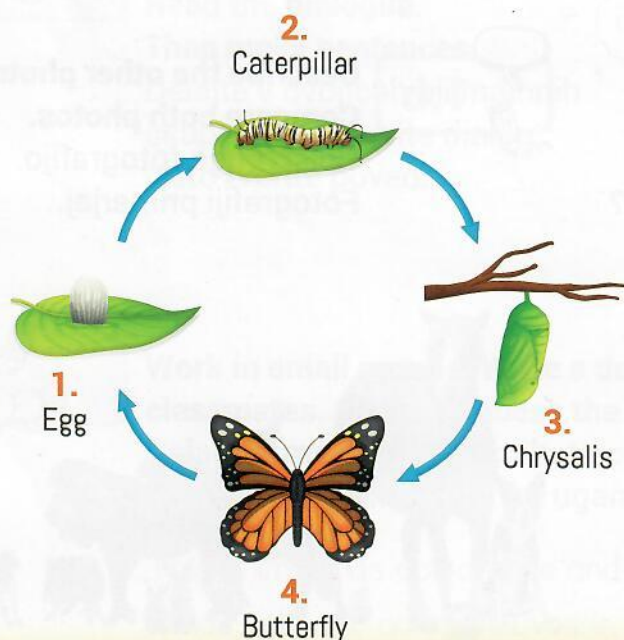
A caterpillar does not stay in this stage for very long. It eats a lot, so it can grow quickly. The caterpillar first eats the eggshell from which it is born. It then starts eating the leaves. As it grows, it sheds its skin many times.

Once the caterpillar is big enough, it stops eating. It then forms a protective layer around itself. This stage is called a chrysalis. Big changes are taking place inside.

After about 10 to 15 days, a beautiful adult butterfly comes out of the chrysalis. Its wings are small and wet. The butterfly pumps fluids into its wings to make them strong and big.

After a few hours, the butterfly can fly.

These changes in the life cycle of a butterfly is called metamorphosis. It is Latin for "changing shape".



- a. A beautiful adult butterfly comes out.
- b. The caterpillar eats leaves or flowers all the time.
- c. This is a resting stage.
- d. A butterfly starts its life as an egg.
- e. It can fly.
- f. An adult butterfly lays eggs on a leaf.
- g. The caterpillar grows and loses its old skin many times.
- h. Inside, many changes are happening.