

PENGUIN KIDS LE

Butterflies and Frogs

Hannah is a scientist and she studies animals. She wants to show you two animals with amazing life cycles ... a butterfly and a frog. The Peacock butterfly lives in Europe. The Red-eyed tree frog lives in the rainforests of Central and South America.

Which one hibernates?

Which one is nocturnal?

Let's take a look ...

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British English

ISBN 978-1-4082-8833-7

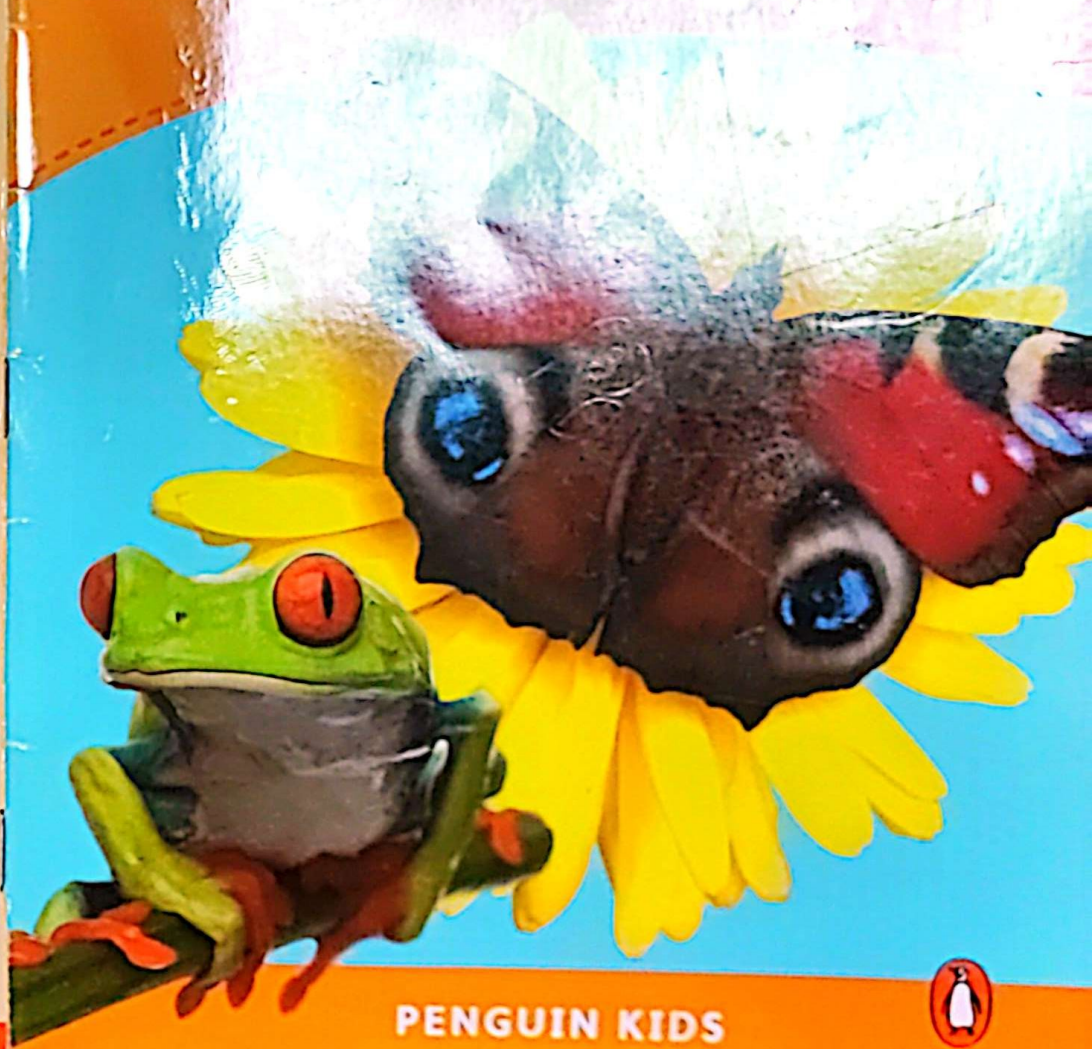


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Butterflies and Frogs



PENGUIN KIDS



82-20



Pearson Education Limited
Edinburgh Gate, Harlow,
Essex CM20 2JE, England
and Associated Companies throughout the world.

ISBN: 978-1-4082-8833-7

This edition first published by Pearson Education Ltd 2013
1 3 5 7 9 10 8 6 4 2

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Set in 17/21pt OT Fiendstar
Printed in China
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89 640

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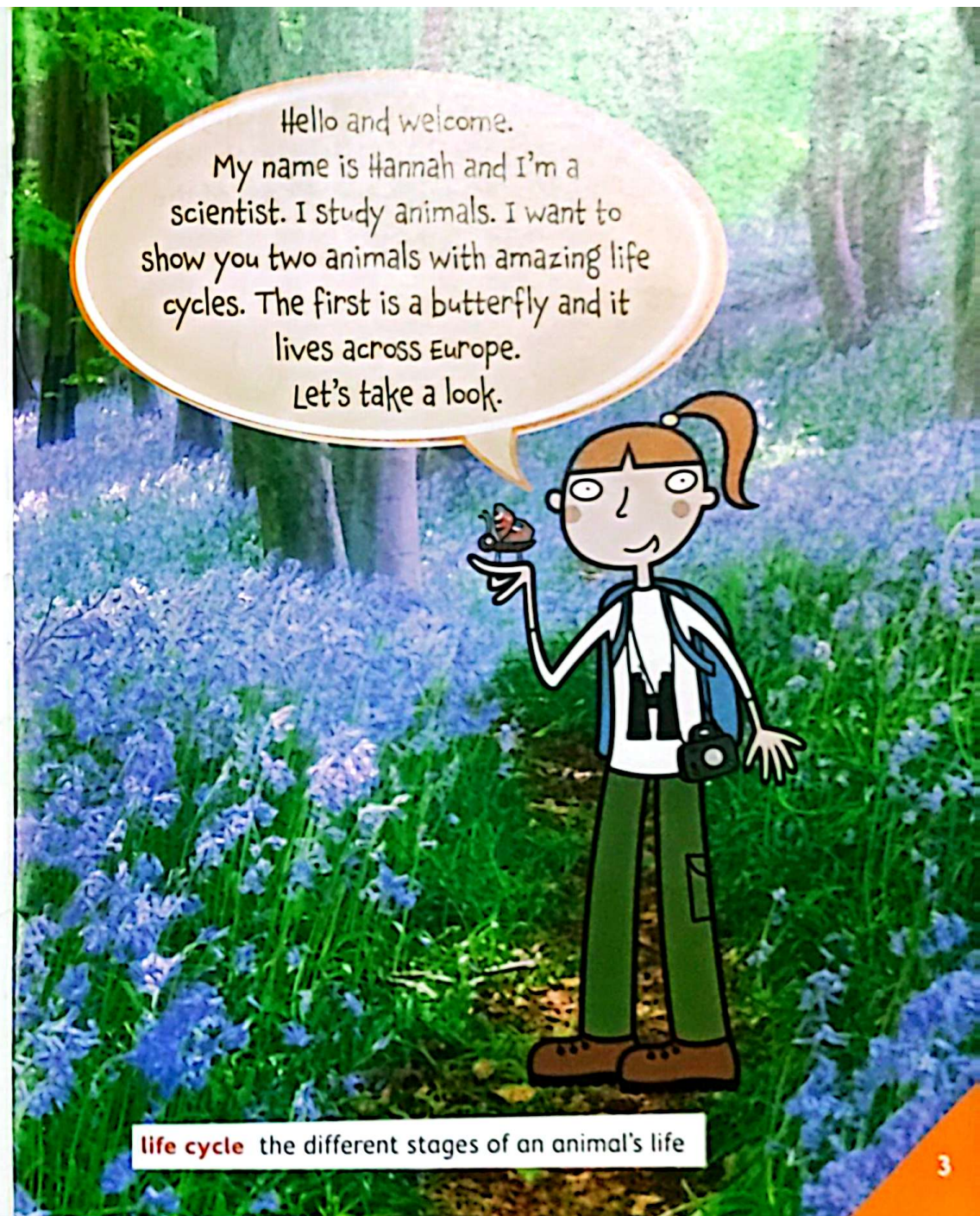
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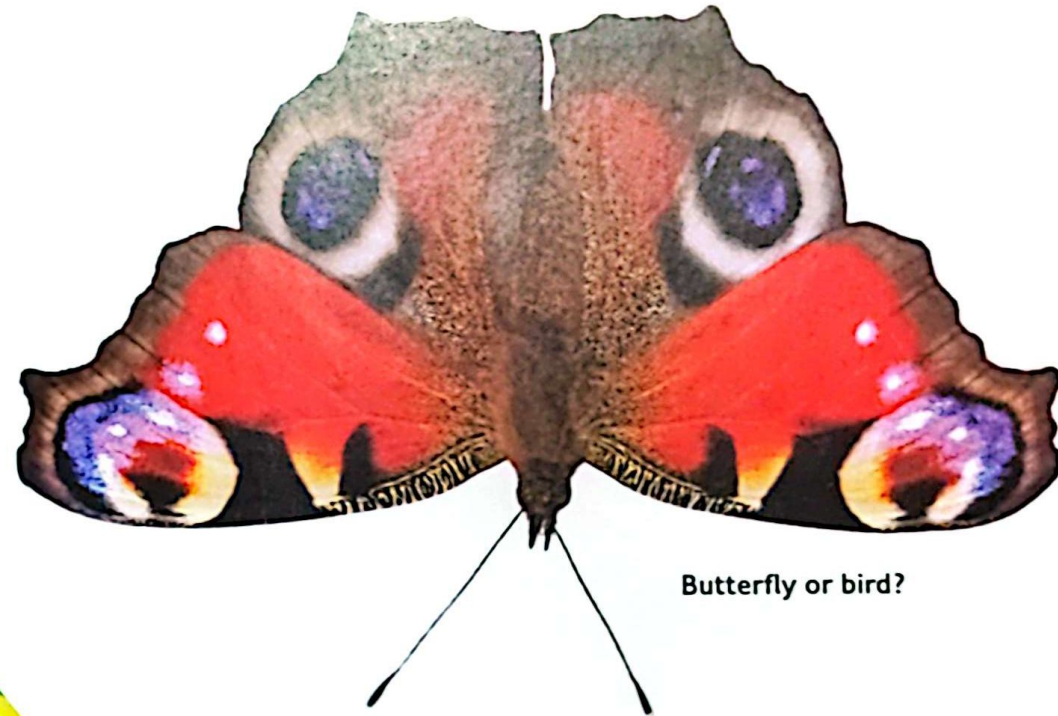
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life cycle the different stages of an animal's life

This is the Peacock butterfly. The pattern on its wings is beautiful, but it's also important. The circles look like eyes. Bigger animals than the butterfly are scared of the 'eyes'. To a mouse, it can look like a bird's head!

wing

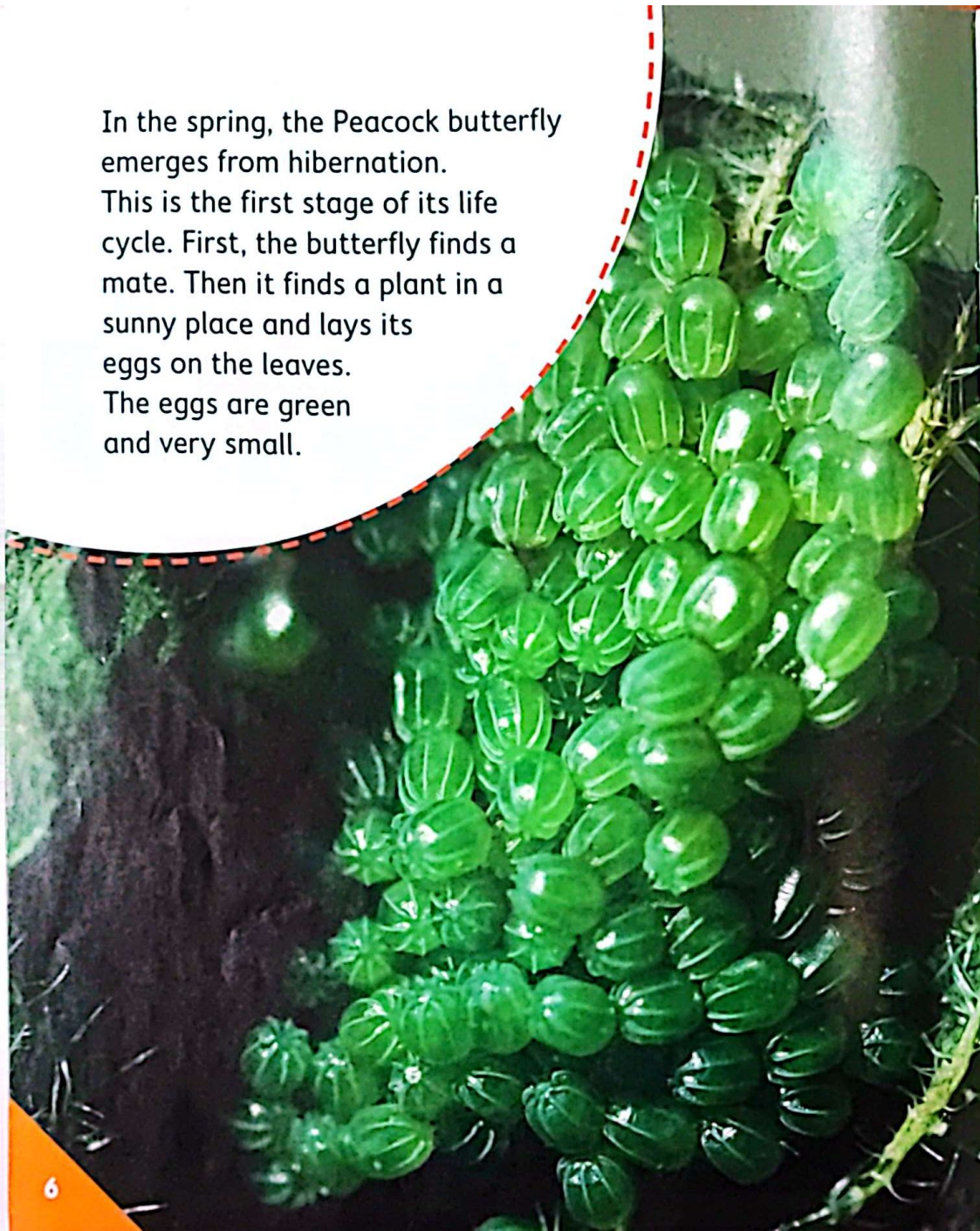


Butterfly or bird?

The Peacock butterfly can live for 11 months. That's a long time for a butterfly. How does it do that? It finds a tree and it hibernates through the cold winter months.

hibernate sleep through the winter

In the spring, the Peacock butterfly emerges from hibernation. This is the first stage of its life cycle. First, the butterfly finds a mate. Then it finds a plant in a sunny place and lays its eggs on the leaves. The eggs are green and very small.



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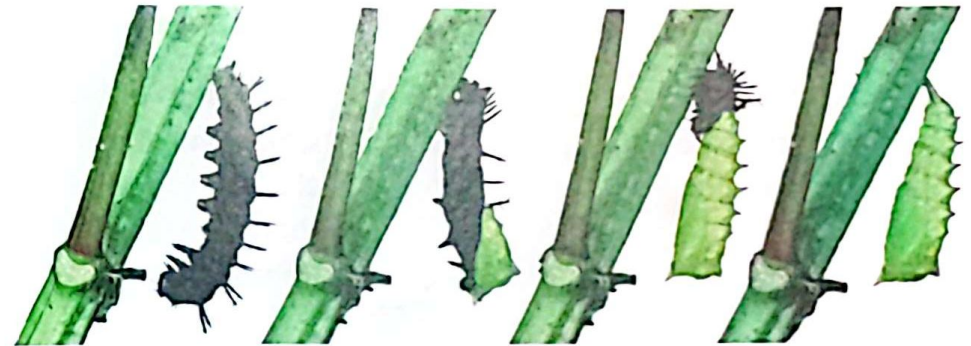
After about ten days, black caterpillars come out of the eggs. This is the second stage of the life cycle. The caterpillars are hungry and they eat the leaves round them.



caterpillar

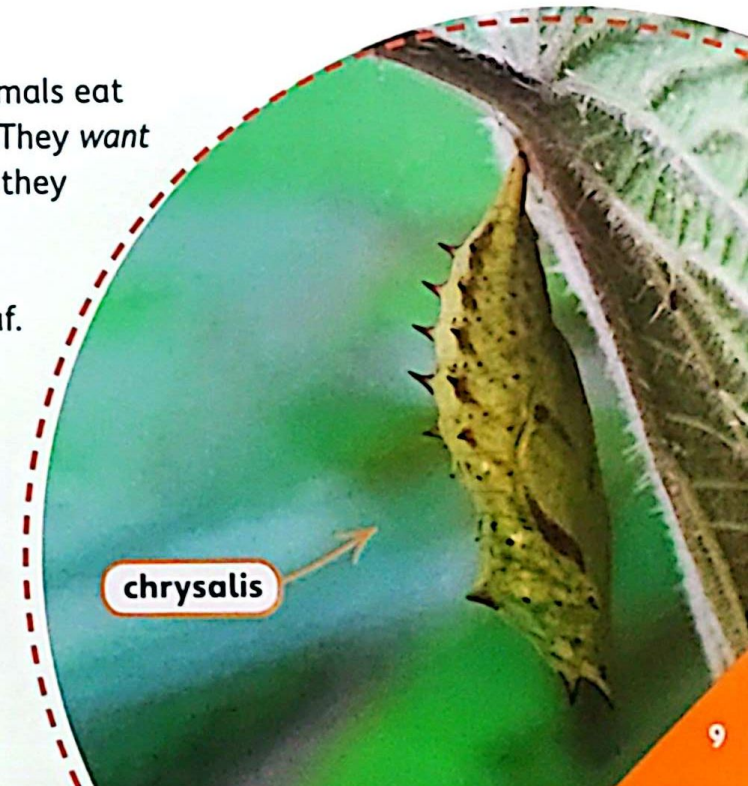
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The caterpillars grow bigger and bigger every day. Now they have to be careful. This is a dangerous time because birds can easily see them – and eat them!



The third stage in the life cycle is amazing because the caterpillar changes. It grows a chrysalis round its body.

Why don't animals eat the chrysalis? They want to eat it... but they can't see it! The chrysalis looks like a leaf. That's clever!



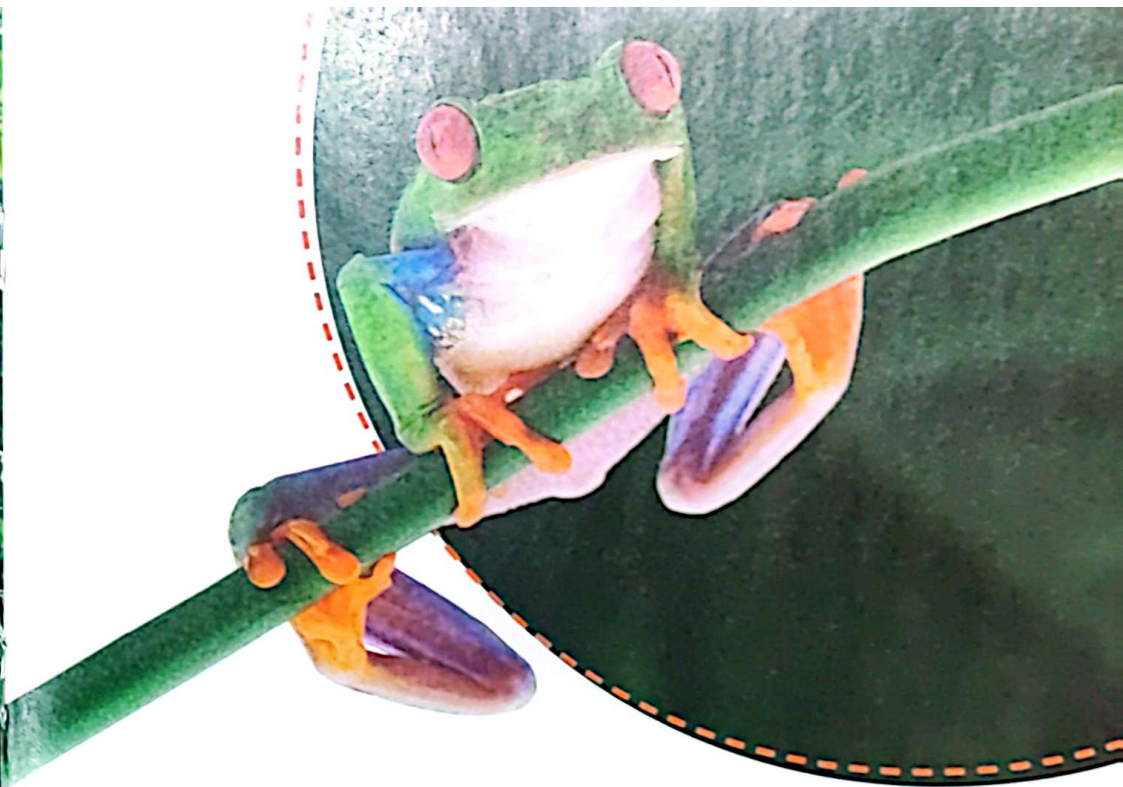
The fourth and last stage of the life cycle is more amazing than before. Inside the chrysalis, this animal is changing again ...



After about two weeks, the chrysalis slowly opens. A new Peacock butterfly emerges. At first it has to wait. It can't fly because its wings are wet.

It's summer now. The butterfly flies from flower to flower. It has to eat a lot before the autumn and it's time to hibernate.





The Red-eyed tree frog is nocturnal. It lives in the trees and it's good at jumping and climbing. Its feet can stick to the leaves.

It has some amazing colours on its body ...
big red eyes
orange or red feet
a bright green body and
a blue and yellow pattern on its body.
That's a lot of colours for a small frog!

nocturnal awake at night



The colours on the Red-eyed tree frog are beautiful and also *important*. In the day, it sleeps on a green leaf. Animals can't see it because it looks like the leaf. Its big red eyes can scare bigger animals.



In the rainy season, the frog finds a mate. Then it finds a leaf above a pond and lays its eggs. The eggs stick to the leaf. This is the first stage of the frog's life cycle.



pond

rainy season in the rainy season it rains every day



insect



snake

This is a dangerous time in the Red-eyed tree frog's life cycle. Snakes and big insects want to eat the eggs.



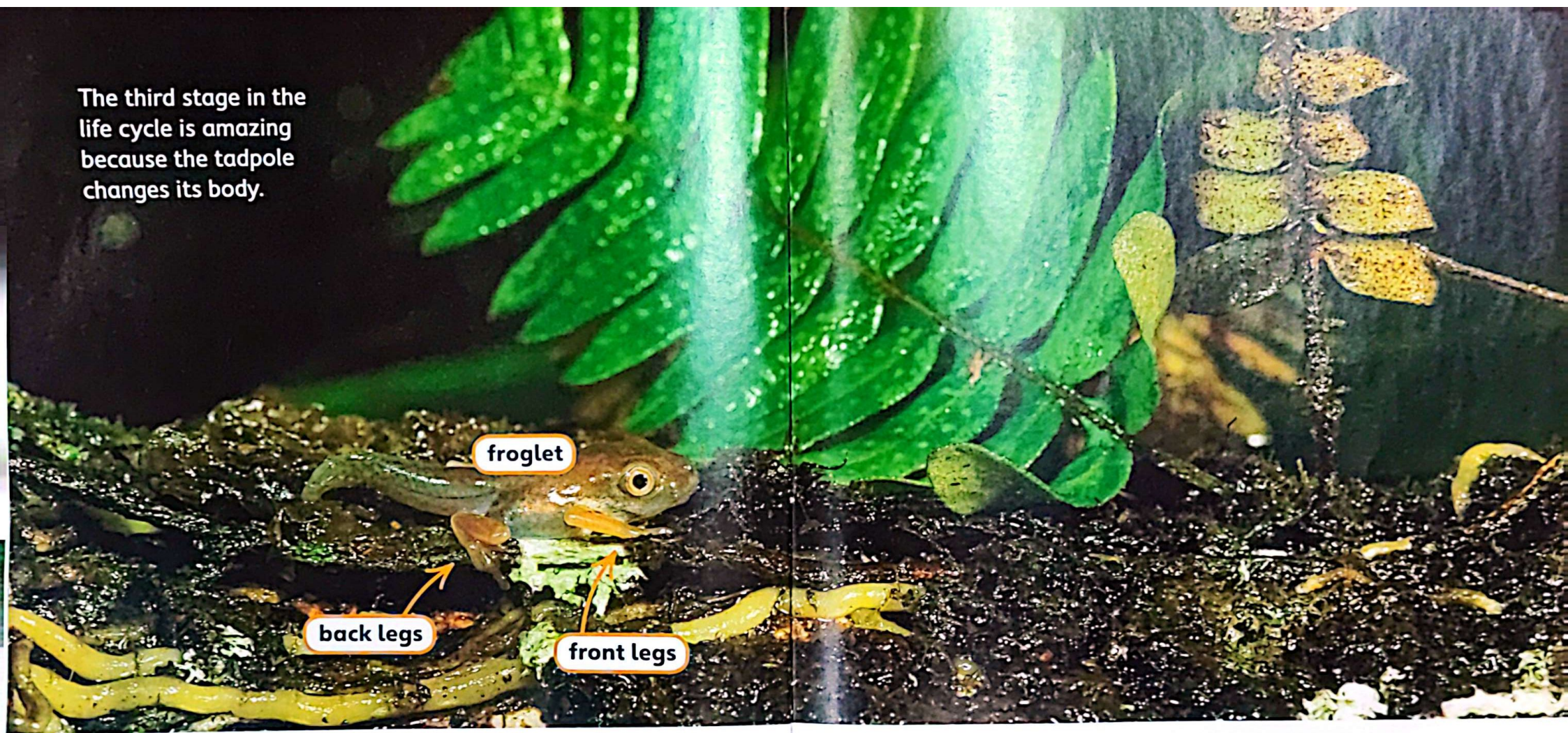
After some days, all the eggs open and tadpoles emerge. This is the second stage in the frog's life cycle. The tadpoles slide down the leaf and drop into the water below.



tadpole

The tadpoles live in the water and they eat very small insects. They have tails and they look more like fish than frogs!

The third stage in the life cycle is amazing because the tadpole changes its body.



The tadpole is growing and changing. First it grows back legs. Then it grows front legs. It has a tail but this is also changing. The tail is getting smaller and smaller.

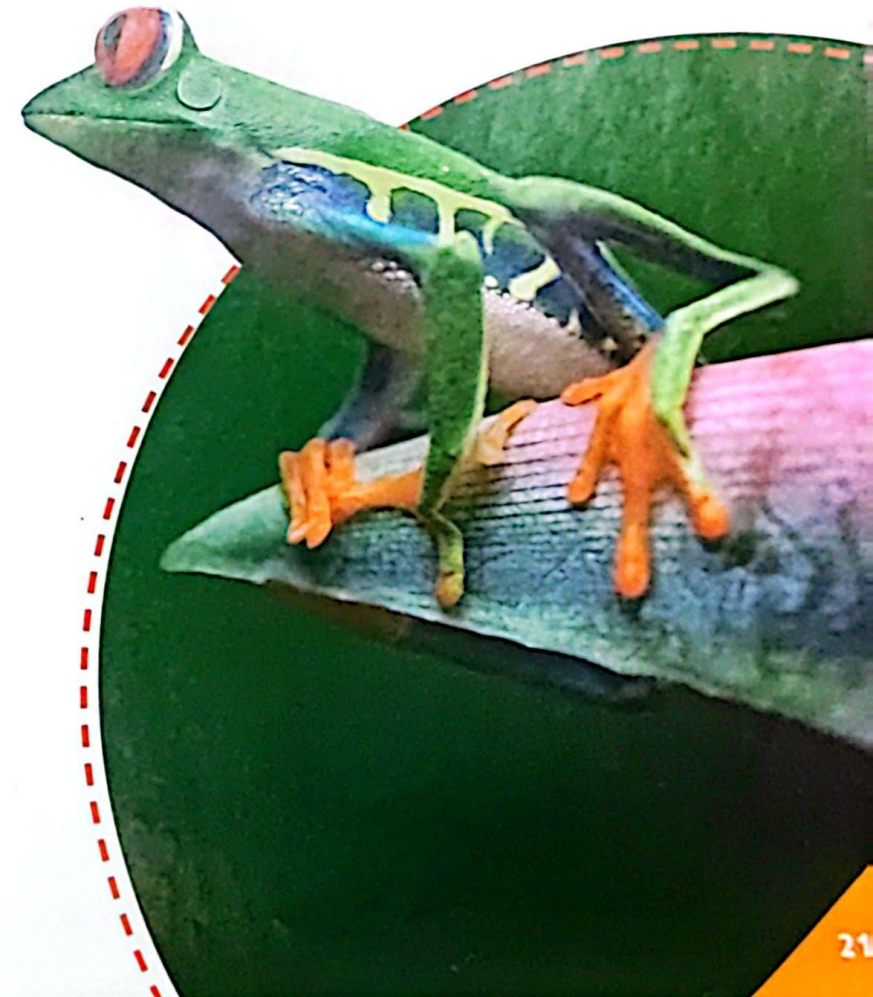
Slowly it changes from a tadpole to a small brown froglet. A froglet is a very young frog. It doesn't breathe under water now. It comes out of the water and breathes.



The froglet moves from the water to the plants round the water. Its front and back legs get stronger and it can climb now.

Slowly, this small froglet changes from brown to the bright colours of the adult frog. This is the fourth and last stage of the frog's life cycle.

The sky is dark. The Red-eyed tree frog wakes up. It's time to catch an insect for breakfast.



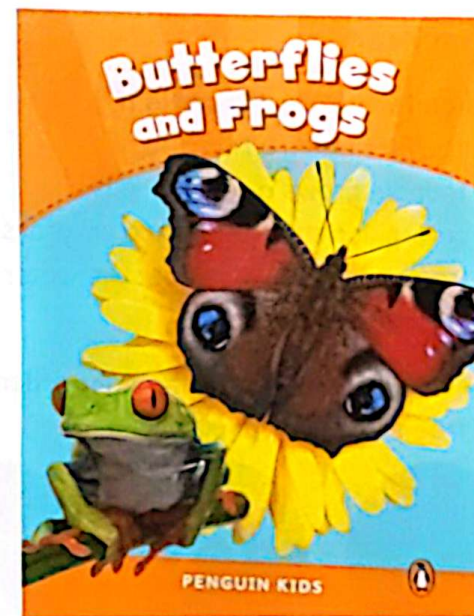
What did you think? These are two amazing stories of animal life cycles. There are four stages for the butterfly and four stages for the frog, but they are very different. Can you remember them?



Activity page 1

Before You Read

- 1 Look at the cover.
What can you see?



- 2 Look at these words. Find a picture of them in the book.
 - a caterpillar
 - b chrysalis
 - c tadpole
 - d insect
 - e froglet