

## Session 3S: Lesson 3 Nonlinguistic representations

### The Lifecycle of a Butterfly

Butterflies *go through a lifecycle*. A butterfly has **four stages** in its lifecycle. Each stage is different. Each stage also has a different goal. A butterfly becoming an adult is called metamorphosis. The lifecycle process can take a month to year. It depends on the type of butterfly.



#### Stage 1: Eggs

*In the first stage* a girl butterfly lays **eggs**. A butterfly first starts out as an egg. A girl butterfly lays the eggs on a leaf. She lays the eggs really close together. The eggs are really small and round. About five days after the eggs are laid. A tiny worm-like creature will **hatch** from the egg.



#### Stage 2: Caterpillar (Larva)

*The second stage* is the **caterpillar**. A caterpillar is sometimes called a **larva**. A caterpillar is a long creature. It looks like a worm. Most caterpillars have a cool pattern. This pattern has stripes or patches.

The caterpillar is hungry once it has hatched. It starts to eat leaves and flowers. It eats these all the time. It first eats the leaf that it was born on. This is the eating and growing stage. A

caterpillar grows really fast. It grows so fast that it becomes too big for its **skin**. So the caterpillar has to **shed** its old skin. It then gets new skin. Caterpillars shed their skin four or more times while they are growing.



#### Stage 3: Chrysalis (Pupa)

*Stage three* is the **chrysalis**. This is when the caterpillar is done growing. The caterpillar makes a chrysalis. Another name for a chrysalis is a **pupa**. It is mostly brown or green. It is the same color as the things around it. Things like the trees, leaves, or branches. This is so that other animals cannot see it. This

protects them. This keeps them from getting hurt.

This is the resting stage. It also is the changing stage. The caterpillar starts to change. It starts to **turn into** a butterfly. It starts to look different. Its shape starts to change. It changes quickly. It then turns into a butterfly. All this happens in the chrysalis.

#### Stage 4: Butterfly (Adult /imago)



*In stage four*, the chrysalis opens. Soon a butterfly comes out. A butterfly is sometimes called an **imago**. It is also called an **adult**.

Butterflies are very colorful. When the butterfly first comes out its **wings** are **damp**. The wings are also soft. The wings are folded against its body. The butterfly is also very tired. So the butterfly rests.

Once the butterfly has rested, it will be ready to start flying. It will start to **pump blood** into its wings. This is to get them working and flapping. After it does this, it can now learn to fly. Butterflies cannot fly well at first. They need a lot of practice. It does not take long for them to learn. They learn fast. When it can fly, it will go look for food. The butterfly will also go look for a **mate**. It will soon find a mate. It will then lay eggs. *The lifecycle will start all over again.*

#### Summary

Butterflies *go through a lifecycle*. There are four stages. *The first stage* is the **eggs**. This is where a girl butterfly lays eggs. She lays them on a leaf. *The second stage* is the **caterpillar**. This is where the eggs **hatch**. It takes about five days for the eggs to hatch. A caterpillar then comes out. At this stage, the caterpillar eats all the time. It also grows really fast. Once it is all the way grown, *the third stage* starts. This stage is the **chrysalis**. The caterpillar makes a chrysalis. The caterpillar is inside the chrysalis. Inside the chrysalis, it starts to change. It soon changes into a butterfly. Once the caterpillar has changed into a **butterfly**, *the fourth stage starts*. This is also that last stage in the lifecycle. A butterfly comes out of the chrysalis. It can now learn to fly. It can also find a **mate**. When it finds a mate, it lays **eggs**. Then the *lifecycle process starts all over again*.

Based on: [The Lifecycle of a Butterfly by: Aliyya Christiani](#)