



Name _____

Date _____

The Life Of A Butterfly

Who does not love butterflies right? They are one of the most interesting insects on our planet and there are more than sixteen thousand different kinds of butterflies. They come in different colors, sizes and shapes. There are 4 stages of every butterfly's life and the first stage is called egg stage followed by the larva stage. When it is a larva or also known as a caterpillar, it eats as much as it can until it becomes an adult.

Growing every day, it sheds the outer skin 4 or 5 times and after a few weeks like that, it enters the next phase of its life called as chrysalis phase. This is the most interesting phase of a butterfly's life where it liquefies into living cells before turning back into a reorganized butterfly. The chrysalis stage is as interesting as it gets and at a later time in this phase, one can actually see the forming butterfly.

After the chrysalis phase is over, the butterfly propels its wings forcefully to send the blood through them to learn to fly. It is a sad fact that most of the butterflies live no longer than about two weeks. However, this amount of time is sufficient to suck flower nectar and mate. Monarch Butterfly is the one that could live up to several months.



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Questions

1. How many stages or phases are there in a butterfly's life?

2. In which phase of life does the metamorphosis happen?

3. Why does the butterfly shed the outer skin?

4. What is the average age of most of the butterflies?

5. How does a butterfly fly for the first time?



Vocabulary

1. Shed

- a) Cast off
- b) To break
- c) To cut

2. Propel

- a) Dive or push forward
- b) To walk quickly
- c) To run

3. Liquefy

- a) To throw a liquid
- b) To turn into liquid
- c) To drink liquid