

CYCLE OF LIFE

Explore the life cycles of different animals and see how animals develop in similar and dissimilar ways from each other.

SUMMARY:

Students look at the life cycles of humans, butterflies, and other animals to see the similarities in stages. By exploring different animals, students will see how many stages can look alike, or very different, depending on the animal!



EDUCATIONAL VALUE:

In this class, children learn about the major stages in an animals' life cycle. Students will build progressions of different animals' cycles including butterflies, birds, frogs, and more based on their newfound knowledge. They learn how animals are similar to their parents and different from other species from their teeth to their feet. Hands-on activities encourage students to interact with the concepts presented. This lesson provides an opportunity to develop scientific skills through inquiry based instructional methods.

TAKE-HOME MESSAGE:

- 1 Animals have life cycles of birth, developing into an adult, reproducing, aging and death.
- 2 Different animals spend different amounts of time in each life cycle stage.
- 3 Adult animals reproduce to sustain their species.
- 4 Young animals can look similar or different to their parents based on the species

TAKE-HOME PRODUCT:

Bug Box complete with Live Animal

North Carolina Essential Standards:

Understand animal life cycles.

- 2.L.1.1 Summarize the life cycle of animals including:
 - Birth • Developing into an adult • Reproducing • Aging and death
- 2.L.1.2 Compare life cycles of different animals such as, but not limited to, mealworms, ladybugs, crickets, guppies or frogs.

Remember that organisms differ from or are similar to their parents based on the characteristics of the organism.

- 2.L.2.1 Identify ways in which many plants and animals closely resemble their parents in observed appearance and ways they are different.
- 2.L.2.2 Recognize that there is variation among individuals that are related.

