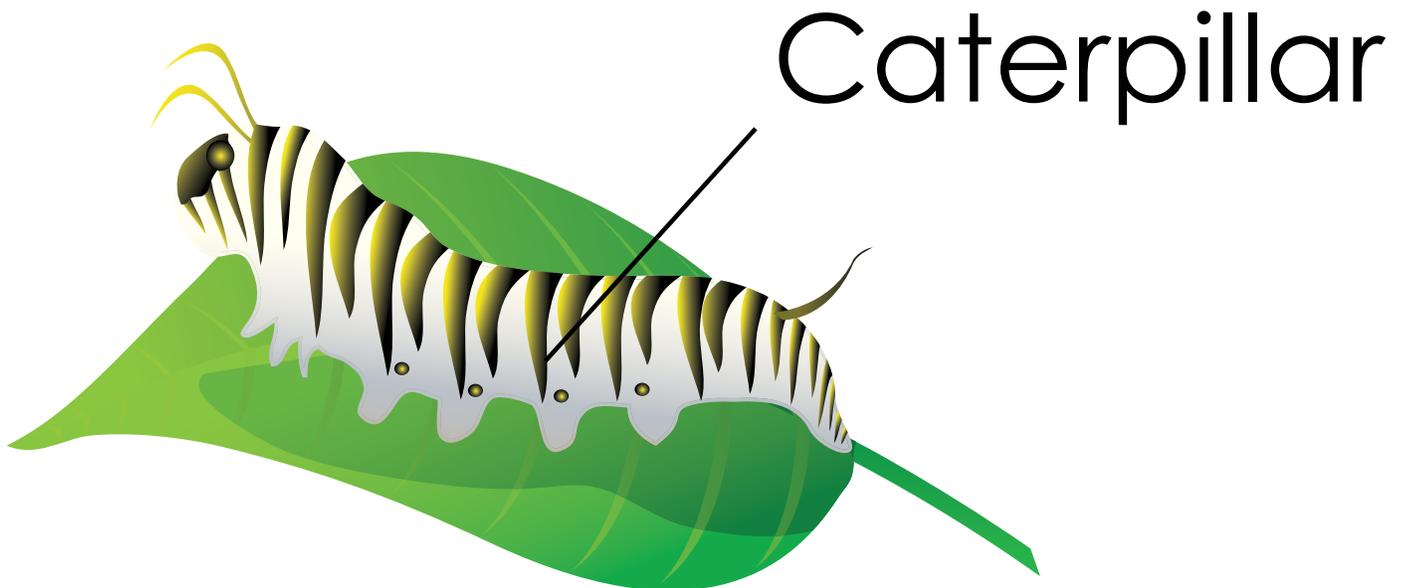


Butterflies are beautiful insects. But the story of how they become a butterfly is very interesting. They have a **life cycle**. This means they start as something else, and slowly become a butterfly through the different stages of their lives. Butterflies have four stages in their life cycle. At the end of stage four, the cycle starts all over again!



Stage two is the caterpillar. A caterpillar is sometimes called larve. Most caterpillars have a cool pattern. The caterpillar is hungry once it has hatched. It starts to eat leaves and flowers. Caterpillars only stay in this stage for a few weeks.



Stage three is the chrysalis. Another name for a chrysalis is a pupa. It is mostly brown or green. The chrysalis is hard on the outside and protects the butterfly. The butterfly begins to change inside the chrysalis.



Pupa

In **stage four**, the chrysalis opens and a butterfly comes out. Butterflies are very colorful. When the butterfly first comes out its wings are wet and soft. The butterfly is also very tired, so it rests.

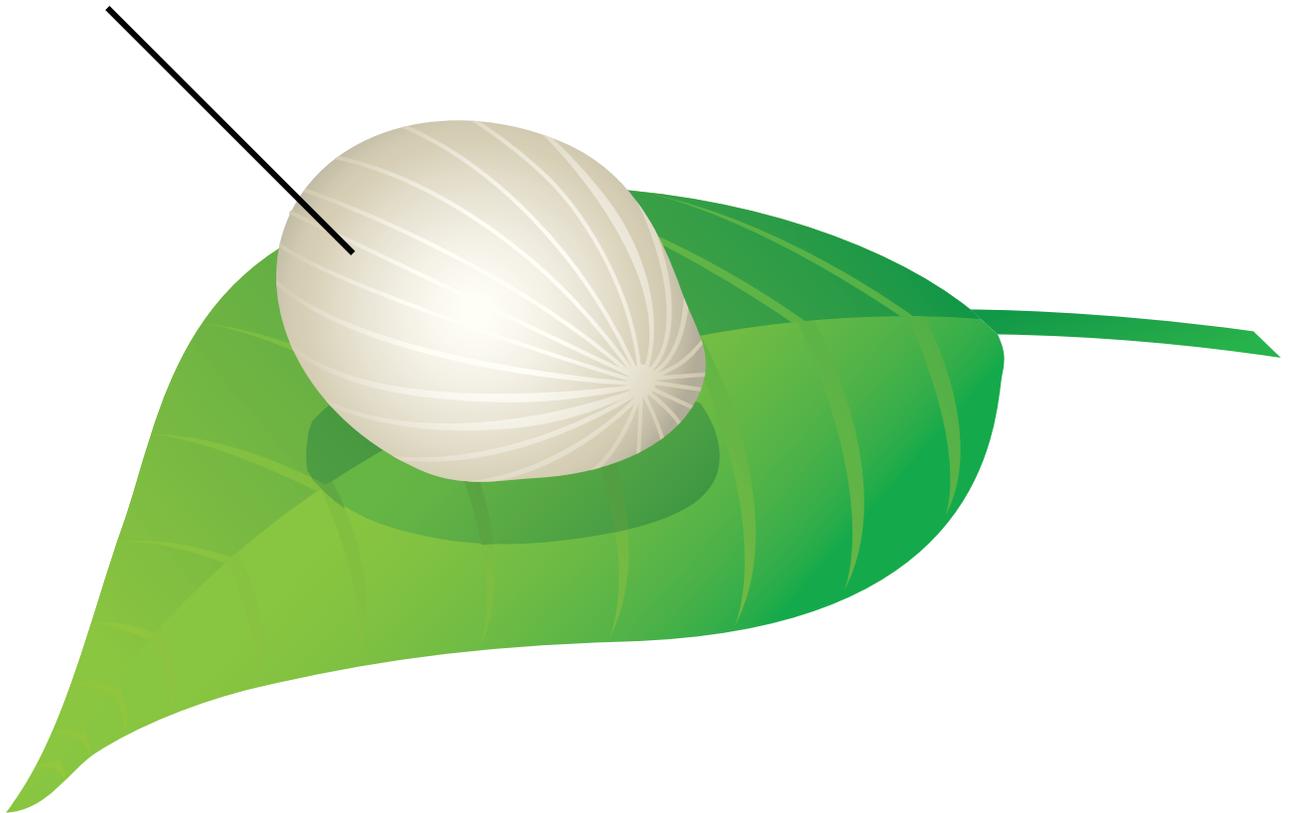
Once the butterfly has rested, it will be ready to start flying. Butterflies cannot fly very well at first. They need a lot of practice. When it becomes a good flyer, it will go look for food. As the butterfly grows, it will then lay eggs and the cycle will start again!



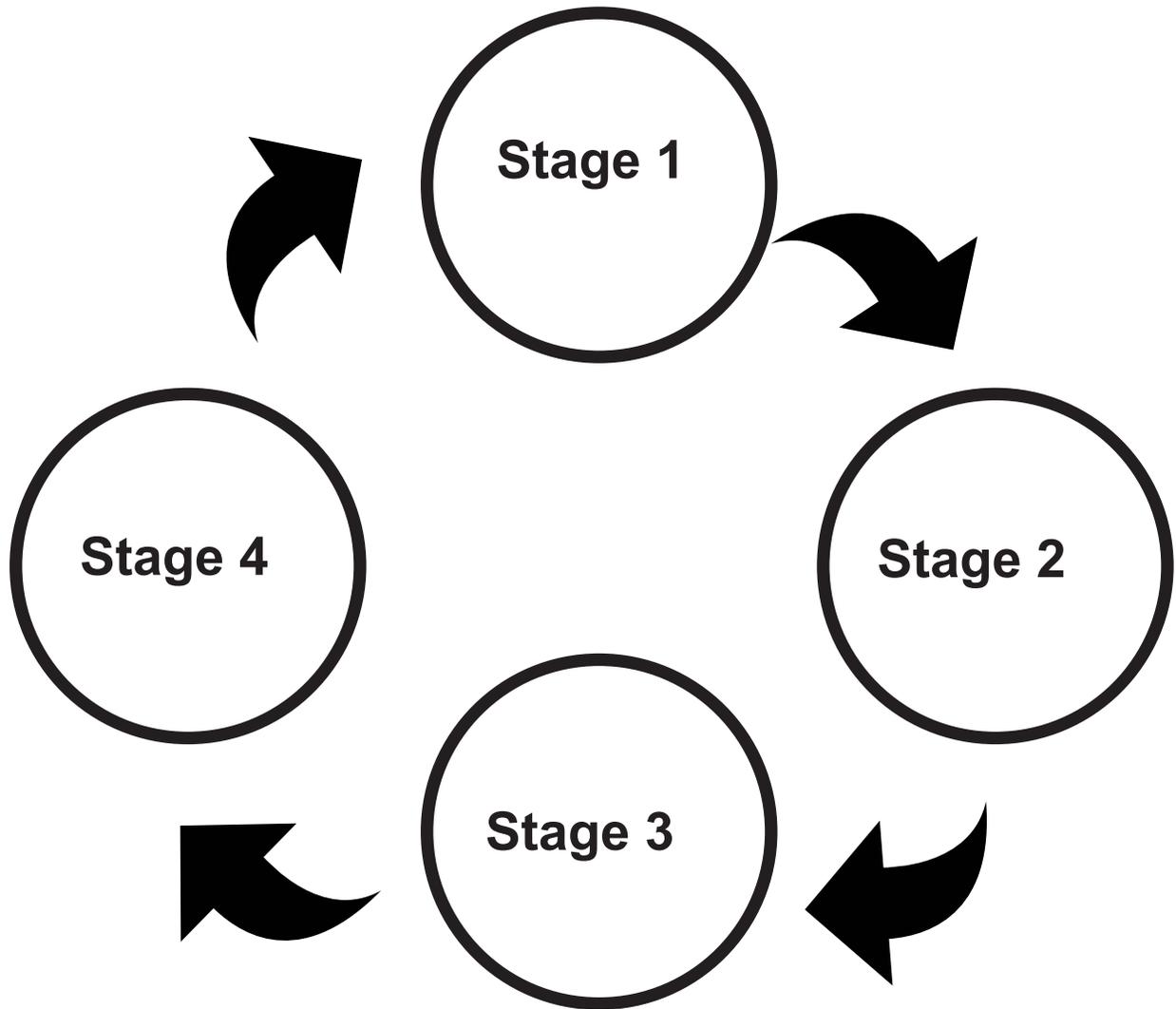
Adult
Butterfly

In **stage one** a female butterfly lays eggs on a leaf. 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.

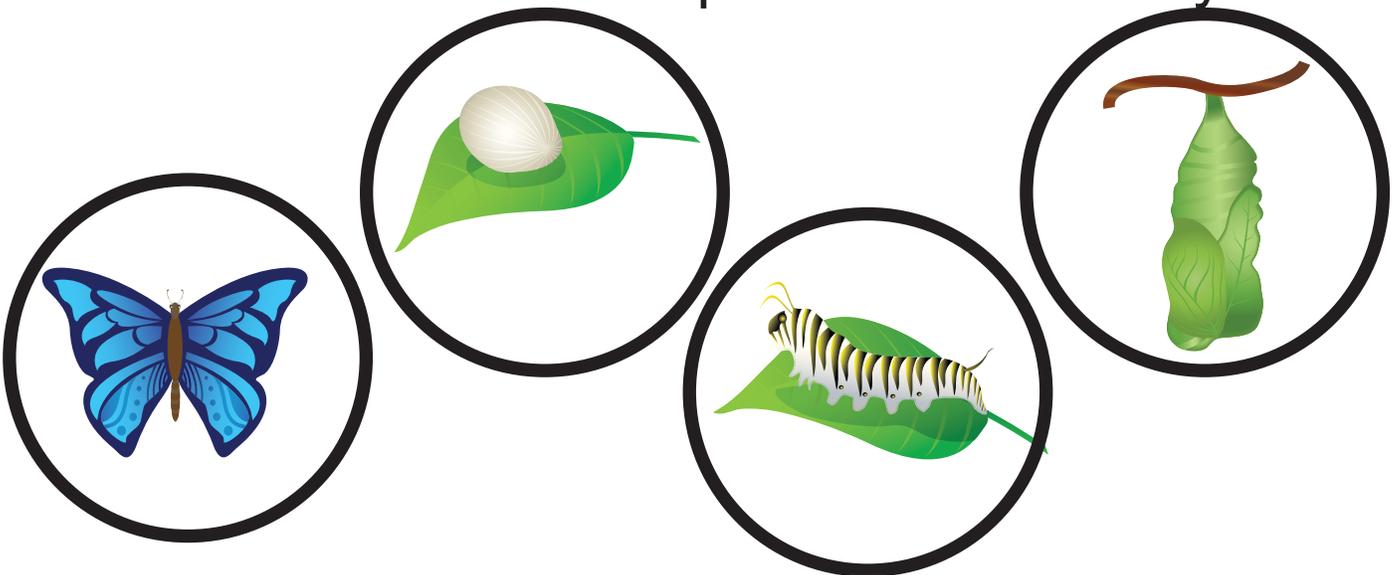
Egg



THE BUTTERFLY LIFE CYCLE



Cut out the different stages of the butterfly and put them in the correct place on the life cycle.

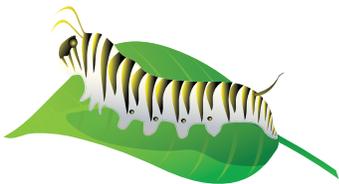


THE BUTTERFLY LIFE CYCLE

Draw a line to match the pictures to the correct word.



caterpillar



egg



butterfly



chrysalis

THE BUTTERFLY LIFE CYCLE

Circle the correct answers to the questions.

1) Where does a butterfly lay eggs?



leaf

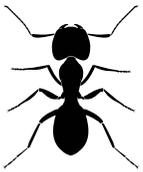


house



dirt

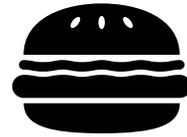
2) What might a caterpillar eat?



ant

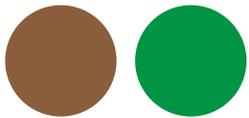


flower

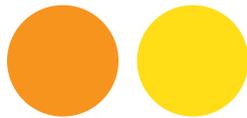


hamburger

3) What colors are a chrysalis?



brown &
green



orange &
yellow



purple &
pink

4) What does a butterfly do when it comes out of the chrysalis?



dance



jump



rest