

Insect Life Cycles

Students will use their observation and reading skills to learn about the life cycles of insects.

Description: Explore insect life cycles by reading exhibit signs and observing the animals in their enclosures.

Location: Insect House

Materials: Pencils or crayons

Background: A Life Cycle is the series of changes in an animal's life. This includes how an animal is born, how they grow up, and how they reproduce. Insects go through very special Life Cycles, which involve very BIG changes!

Egg-straordinary Insects!

Find the answers to these egg-straordinary facts!

1.) Why are there so many different kinds of insects? _____

2.) How many eggs does a termite queen lay a day? _____

3.) Find an insect dad who carries eggs on his back: _____



4.) How long does it take for the eggs of the Giant Spiny Leaf Insect to hatch? _____

5.) In some insect colonies, only ONE female, the Queen, is allowed to lay eggs. Can you find two types of insects that have Queens in their colonies?

1.) _____

2.) _____

6.) Not all bugs lay eggs! Can you find two bugs that give birth to live young?

1.) _____

2.) _____

Find the Metamorphosis Wall in Insect House to answer the following questions and to complete the diagrams below:

1.) What is metamorphosis? _____

2.) There are two types of Metamorphosis: Complete and Incomplete/Gradual. Determine which diagram below illustrates Complete Metamorphosis and which one illustrates Incomplete/Gradual Metamorphosis. Label the life stages in the diagram. Once you have labeled the life stages, find an example of an insect in the Insect House that is going through that life stage today!

_____ Metamorphosis

1.) _____
I found: _____

4.) _____
I found: _____

3.) _____
I found: _____

2.) _____
I found: _____

_____ Metamorphosis

1.) _____
I found: _____

3.) _____
I found: _____

2.) _____
I found: _____