

## **Title:** Metamorphosis Game (Insect Life Cycle)

**Objective:** Act out the life cycle of the butterfly

**Time:** 5-7 minutes

**Materials Needed:** Large open area

### **Activity**

Suggested Season: Any

Suggested Grade Level: K-2

Indoors or Outdoors: Either

Theme: Insects

Topic: Butterfly Life Cycles

### **Directions:**

1. Review the life cycle stages of a butterfly. *Metamorphosis - egg, larva, chrysalis, adult.*
2. Together, create actions to represent each stage. An example is that students could squat with arms folded around their legs to represent the egg stage. Practice actions for each life cycle stage.
3. Review the rules for rock/paper/scissors (R/P/S).
4. The goal of the activity is to go through the stages of metamorphosis by winning a round of R/P/S. Everyone begins as an egg. Students pair up and play R/P/S. The winner advances to the larva stage and must find another person who is in the larva stage to play R/P/S. The loser remains an egg and must find another person who is an egg to play R/P/S. Throughout the game winners move to the next stage, non-winners move back to previous stage.
5. When students reach the adult butterfly stage, they *fly* to a designated place and wait for others to join them.
6. If time, introduce a predator who eats just larva or adult insects. They *eat* by tagging a person in that specific stage.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What other insect life cycles could be represented with this activity? *Example - dragonfly: egg/nymph/adult*
2. What are some predators that would eat butterflies in their different stages?
3. Why are butterflies important?

## Standards Addressed:

Science: 0.4.1.1.1.; 0.4.1.1.2.; 1.4.3.1.1.; 1.4.3.1.2.; 2.1.1.2.1. ; 3.4.1.1.1.

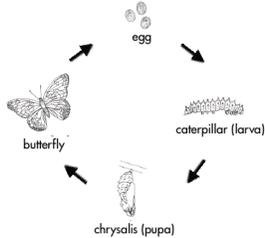
Language Arts :

Math :

Social Studies :

## Background Information:

- **Metamorphosis**—changing from one stage to another
- Complete metamorphosis is 4 stages: egg-larvae-pupae/chrysalis-adult
- Incomplete metamorphosis is 3 stages: egg-nymph-adult



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## Additional Resources:

- <http://www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/schools/beal/curriculum/butterfly/cycle/nsrccycle.html>  
The lifecycle of a butterfly can be found at this website.

## Correlates with:

Greeting – Butterfly Greeting

News and Announcements – Name an Insect