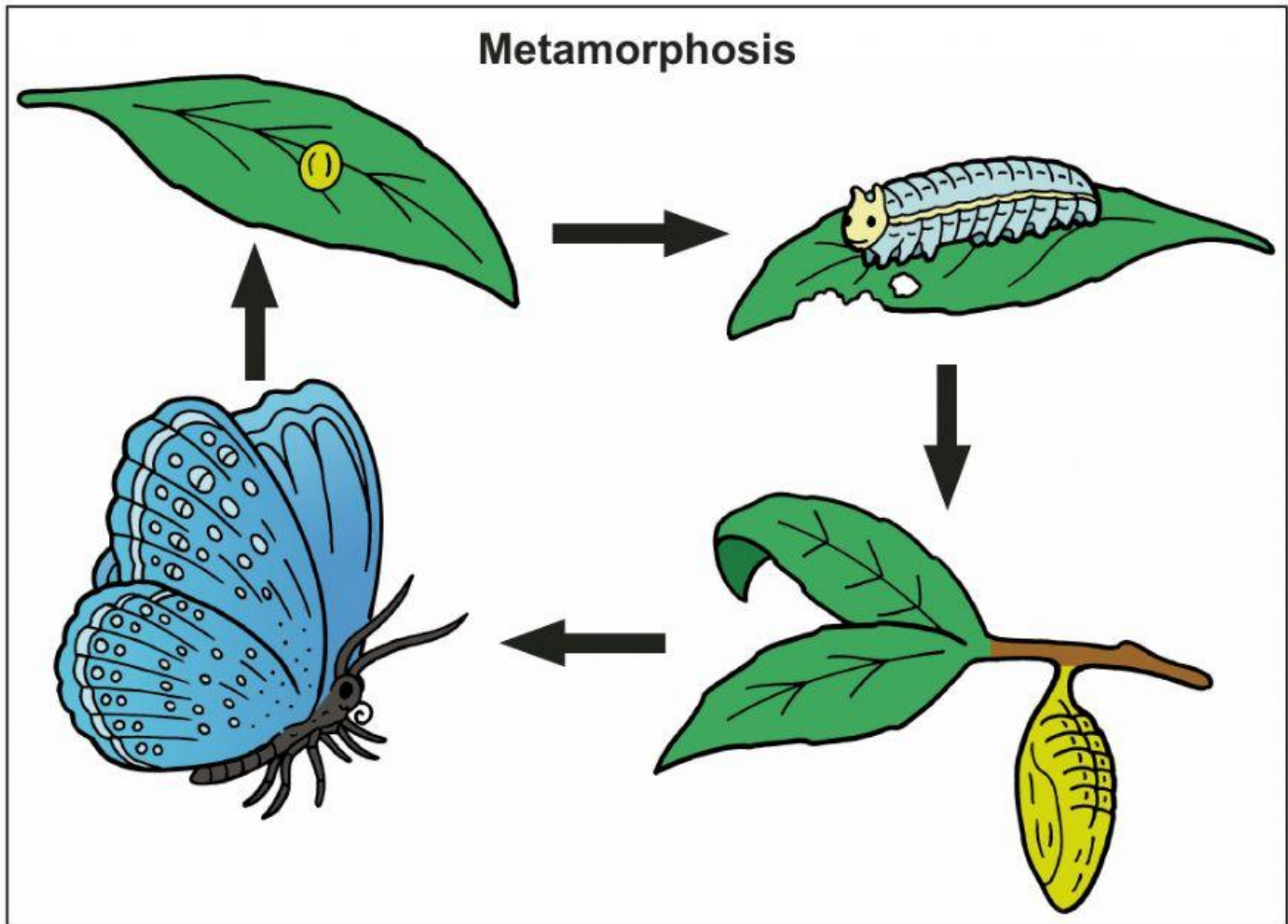


Part D: The Life Cycle of the Butterfly

Butterflies are flying insects that undergo a complete physical change called a metamorphosis.



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A butterfly goes through many stages during its life. First, a larva comes out of an egg and starts to grow bigger. Next, during the pupa stage, the larva attaches itself to a twig and forms a hard outer shell. This shell is called a chrysalis. After many days, the butterfly emerges from its chrysalis as an adult.

According to the passage, which words show the correct order of a butterfly's metamorphosis?

- ☐ Larva → Pupa → Egg → Adult
- ☐ Egg → Larva → Pupa → Adult
- ☐ Pupa → Larva → Egg → Adult
- ☐ Egg → Pupa → Larva → Adult

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Look at the diagram. A larva has simple eyes, small antennae, and many legs. The larva also has sharp teeth and powerful jaws for chewing food. After it forms a chrysalis, a total transformation occurs. This transformation results in a fully formed butterfly with compound eyes, long antennae, and only six legs. It also develops a proboscis, or flexible tube, for feeding.

What is one physical change that occurs during metamorphosis?

- ☐ The number of eyes decreases.
- ☐ The number of teeth increases.
- ☐ The number of legs decreases.
- ☐ The number of antennae increases.

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When butterflies are young, their nutritional needs and eating habits are different from when they are adults. Larvae, or caterpillars, are ravenous eaters and quickly consume large quantities of food so they can grow rapidly and prepare for their metamorphosis. For example, as soon as a caterpillar is born, it eats its own eggshell and then begins to consume leaves on the plants around it. Caterpillars have specialized digestion systems that quickly process large amounts of food.

In adulthood, butterflies require less food than they did during the larva stage. Adult butterflies feed on liquids such as flower nectar to get the right nutrition so they can stay healthy.

Why are the eating habits of caterpillars different from the eating habits of adult butterflies?

- ☐ Because caterpillars need fewer nutrients
- ☐ Because caterpillars are usually very healthy
- ☐ Because caterpillars need a lot of food to help them grow
- ☐ Because caterpillars digest nectar slowly to help them change physically