

# The Life Cycle of a Butterfly



## 1 Egg Stage

Butterfly eggs are tiny and are usually laid on the underside of leaves. After hatching, the caterpillar will usually eat the eggshell before starting to munch on the leaves.



## 2 Larva Stage

After hatching from the egg, the butterfly enters the larva stage, also known as the caterpillar stage. During this stage, the caterpillar eats and grows rapidly and development takes place. It eats leaves and sheds its skin four or more times.



## 4 Adult Stage

Finally, the butterfly emerges from the cocoon as an adult. It has wings and is able to fly and reproduce. The entire life cycle from egg to adult can take anywhere from a few weeks to several months, depending on the species.



## 3 Pupa Stage

Next, the caterpillar enters the pupa stage, also known as the chrysalis stage. It forms a protective cocoon around itself and undergoes a transformation breaking down its body and rebuilding it into a butterfly.

