

Changes (life cycles)

How do animals grow and change?

Essential/Core Vocabulary

Life cycle - The stages a living thing goes through as it grows.
Living - Something that grows and needs food, water and air.
Grow - To get bigger over time.
Change - When something becomes different.
Egg - The first stage in the life cycle of some animals.
Caterpillar - A young butterfly before it changes.
Chrysalis - The stage where a caterpillar changes into a butterfly.
Butterfly - An insect with wings that has changed from a caterpillar.
Chick - A baby chicken.
Chicken - A fully grown bird that chicks grow into.
Hatch - When a baby animal comes out of an egg.
Observe - To look carefully and notice changes.

Links to our core values...

Love - We show love by caring for living things and helping them to grow safely.
Friendship - We work together to observe, care for and learn about caterpillars and chicks, sharing our ideas and discoveries.
Respect - We respect all living things by handling them carefully, meeting their needs and understanding that they grow and change over time.

Key Knowledge

- Living things grow and change over time.
- Butterflies grow through different stages called a life cycle.
- Caterpillars grow and change before becoming butterflies.
- Chicks hatch from eggs and grow into chickens.
- Chicks change as they grow.
- Different animals have different life cycles, but all living things grow and change.

Lesson 1 - What is a Life Cycle?

LO: To know that living things grow and change over time.

Lesson 2 - The Butterfly Life Cycle

LO: To understand the life cycle of a butterfly.

Lesson 3 - Observing Caterpillars

LO: To observe how caterpillars change over time.

Lesson 4 - The Chick Life Cycle

LO: To understand how a chick grows.

Lesson 5 - Watching Chicks Hatch

LO: To observe how chicks change after hatching.

Lesson 6 - Comparing Life Cycles

LO: To compare how animals grow and change.

End Point Activity - Life Cycles Learning Book

Overview - Children create a simple booklet to show what they have learned about butterfly and chick life cycles. They sequence each life cycle, draw and label the stages, and record the changes they observed in the real caterpillars and chicks using the key vocabulary from the topic.

