

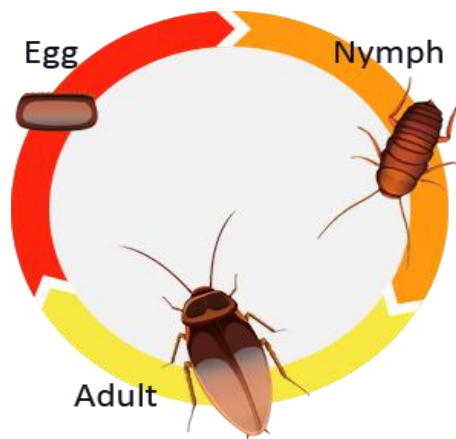
Insects Butterflies and Other Egg Laying Animals



All insects lay eggs. Many of them go through several stages before growing into an adult. Let us look at the life cycle of cockroach.

⇒ Life cycle of cockroach

- A. The baby cockroach that hatches out from the egg look like an adult but has no wings. This is called nymph.
- B. It sheds its skin several times before becoming an adult.
- C. Shedding of old skin is called moulting.
- D. Grasshoppers, locust and termites also go through these same stages.



Insects Butterflies and Other Egg Laying Animals

⇒ Life cycle of Butterflies

- A. The female butterfly lays eggs in clusters on the under part of the leaf.
- B. The eggs hatch into young ones called the larvae and look like worms.
- C. The larva of the butterfly is called the caterpillar who eats leaves and grows quickly to form a shell called a cocoon around its body.
- D. This stage is called the pupa and the caterpillar slowly changes its shape.
- E. An adult butterfly finally comes out of the pupa.



Crocodiles, turtles, lizards and snakes also reproduce by laying eggs. Their eggs have hard shells, like that of birds. Crocodiles and alligators make nests for their eggs on the ground in shallow pits near the river banks. After laying the eggs, the mother covers the eggs with sand. Only a few of them hatch as some do not get sufficient heat and some are eaten by other animals.