

Bea's Life Cycle Discovery

Learning objective: To describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect, and a bird.

Bea the honeybee has been observing different creatures in the meadow. Use the word bank to help you label the correct life cycle stage for each animal listed below. For each animal, state whether it is a mammal, amphibian, insect, or bird, and describe one key feature of its life cycle.

Word bank: Metamorphosis · Egg · Live young · Larva · Pupa · Hatchling · Adult · Gestation

1. 1. A Blue Tit lays an egg in a nest. What is the correct term for the baby bird when it emerges from the shell? Identify its group (mammal, amphibian, insect, or bird). (2 marks)

2. 2. Bea observes a frog. It begins as spawn, turns into a tadpole, and eventually becomes an adult. What is the name for this process of change, and which group does the frog belong to? (2 marks)

3. 3. A red fox gives birth to live young. How does the fox's life cycle differ from that of the honeybee? Use the terms 'gestation' or 'live young' in your answer. (2 marks)

4. 4. Sort these into a sequence: Larva, Egg, Adult, Pupa. Which animal group follows this specific life cycle pattern? (2 marks)

5. 5. Why do you think a bird sits on its eggs? Explain using your knowledge of animal life cycles. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a circular diagram showing the four stages of a butterfly's life cycle. Include labels for Egg, Larva, Pupa, and Adult. Add colourful arrows to show the direction of the cycle.



Extension challenge: Research one endangered animal from the UK. Write a short paragraph explaining how its life cycle might be affected if its habitat is destroyed, and what humans could do to protect its home.