

Life Cycles and Reproduction with Bea the Bee

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

Read each question carefully and use your knowledge of life cycles to provide full explanations. Use the word bank to help you with your answers.

Word bank: metamorphosis · mammal · amphibian · gestation · incubation · larva · pupa · reproduction

1. Bea the Bee is an insect. Describe the four stages of a complete metamorphosis life cycle that insects like Bea go through. (2 marks)

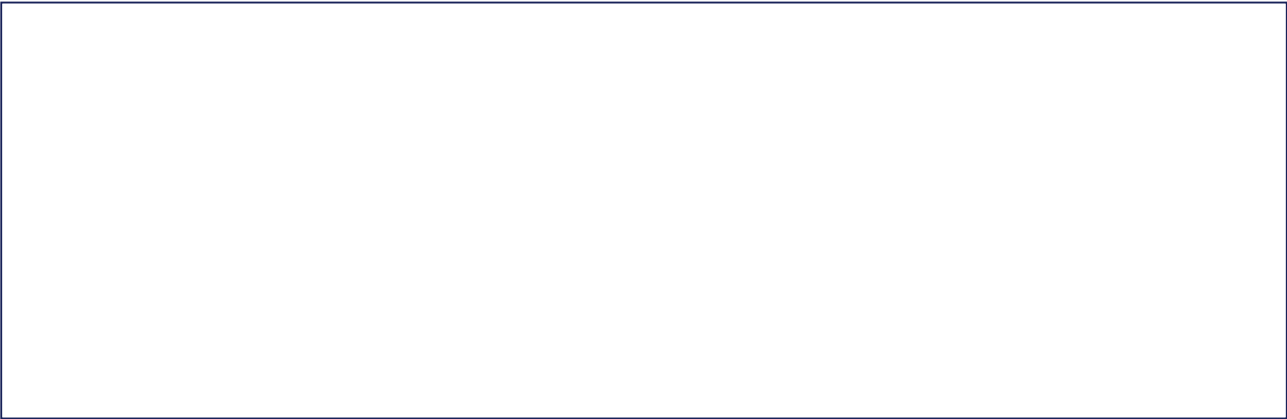
2. Leo the Lion is a mammal. Explain how the birth of a mammal is different from the way a bird, such as a robin, reproduces. (2 marks)

3. Nova the Owl has noticed a frog in the pond. How does the life cycle of an amphibian differ from the life cycle of a mammal? (2 marks)

4. Why is reproduction important for the survival of a species? Use the word 'offspring' in your answer. (2 marks)

5. Max the Monkey is looking at a life cycle chart. If an animal lays eggs that are kept warm by the parent until they hatch, what is this process called? (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a labelled diagram showing the life cycle of a butterfly, including the egg, larva, pupa, and adult stages.



Extension challenge: Research one animal from each group (mammal, bird, amphibian, insect). Create a table comparing how long their gestation or incubation periods are, and how much parental care they provide to their young.