

# Life Cycles

## Classroom Program for Grades K-2

**Program Description:** Piece together the different stages of individual life cycles as students discover and compare how animals grow and develop. Students gain an understanding of metamorphosis and the needs of all living things as they meet live, crawling creatures. Finally, students match their completed life cycle puzzle with the animal's proper habitat as they share their discoveries with the rest of the class.

**Lesson:** Learn about life cycles focusing on animal growth and development.

**Conservation Message:** All life on earth exists as part of an ecosystem.

### Curriculum Objectives:

**Tennessee** students will apply the following **Science Curriculum Performance Indicators:**

- " The student will identify the part that is missing from a specific plant or animal.
- " The student will choose the diagram that depicts a parent with its offspring.
- " The student will select the illustration that shows an adult organism.
- " The student will select the illustration that shows how an organism changes as it matures.

**Georgia** students will apply the following **Science Performance Standards:**

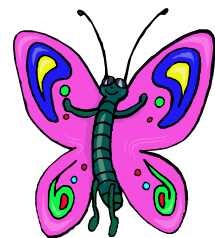
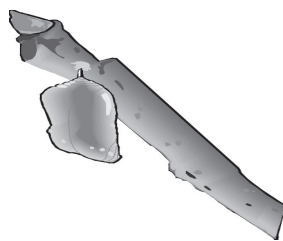
- " Students will compare the similarities and differences in groups of organisms.
- " Students will investigate the the life cycles of different living organisms.
- " Students will investigate the characteristics and basic needs of plants and animals.

**Alabama** students will apply the following **Science Course of Study Content Standards:**

- " Compare size, shape, structure and basic needs of living things.
- " Describe survival traits of living things, including color, shape, size, texture and covering.
- " Identify characteristics of animals including behavior, size and body covering.

Additionally, all students will apply the following **National Science Education Content Standards:**

- " Develop an understanding of life cycles of organisms.
- " Develop an understanding of the characteristics of organisms.
- " Develop an understanding of changes in the environment.



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## Activity Sheet

Match the vocabulary words to the appropriate picture.

**Amphibian** – A group of animals characterized by slimy skin, eggs laid in water and undergoing metamorphosis including frogs, newts and salamanders.

**Bird** – A group of animals characterized by having feathers and laying eggs that they must incubate or keep warm before hatching.

**Egg-tooth** – Tooth or horny projection found on the end of the nose or beak of some birds, reptiles and other animals that hatch from eggs. The egg-tooth is used to crack the eggshell.

**Habitat** – A place where an animal lives and can find food, water, shelter, and space.

**Larva** – Newly hatched animals that undergo metamorphosis such as a caterpillar.

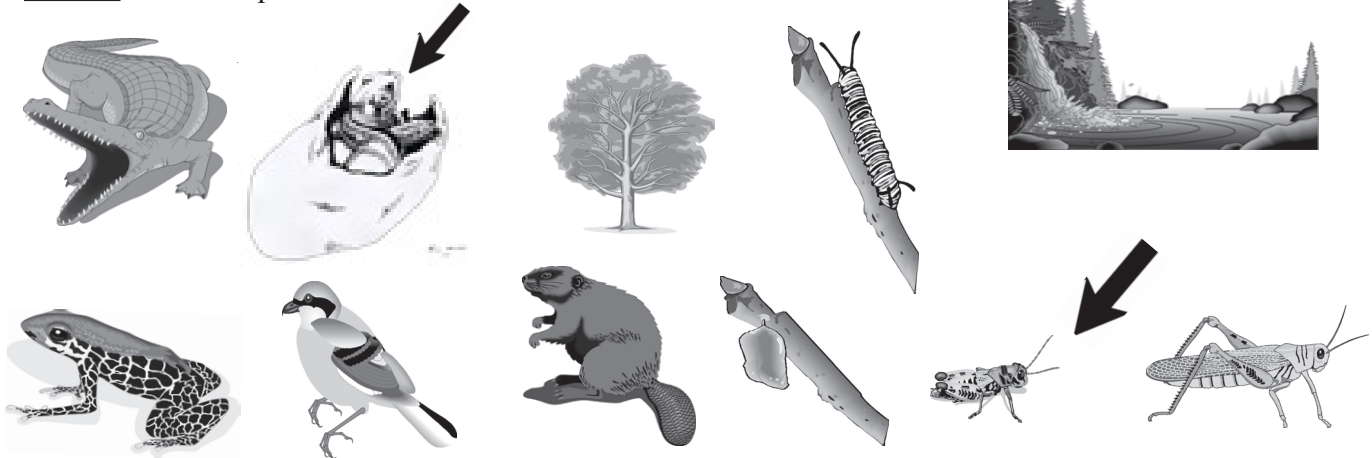
**Mammal** – A group of animals characterized by having hair and feeding their young with milk produced by the mother such as a dog, cat, beaver, and human.

**Nymph** - Young stage in the life cycle of some insects in which the young look similar to the adult, as in grasshoppers and crickets.

**Pupa** - The inactive stage in metamorphosis of many insects following the larval stage and before the adult stage in which the larva is enclosed in a protective case and changes into a new form. The chrysalis stage of a butterfly.

**Reptile** - A group of animals characterized by an external covering of scales such as a turtle, snake, alligator or lizard.

**Shelter** - Cover or protection from the weather such as a tree.



Answers can be found on our Website at  
[http://www.tnaqua.org/KidsTeachers/Program\\_descriptions.asp](http://www.tnaqua.org/KidsTeachers/Program_descriptions.asp)

