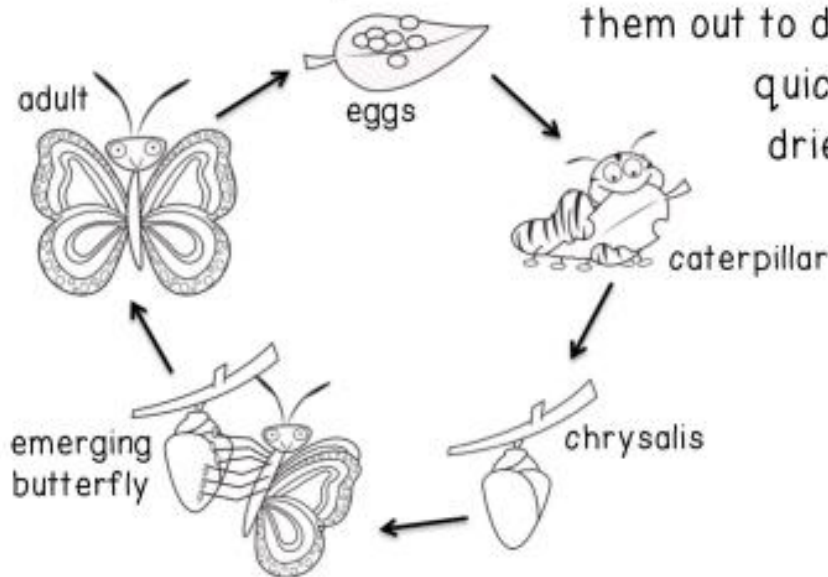


# THE LIFE OF A BUTTERFLY

Butterflies start out as **eggs**. After about five days, a butterfly egg hatches and out comes a tiny **caterpillar**. The caterpillar is very hungry when it comes out of the egg. It eats and eats and grows very quickly. When the caterpillar is done growing, it sheds its skin and forms a **chrysalis**, which is also called a pupa. The chrysalis is brown or green so that it is camouflaged in nature. Inside the chrysalis, the caterpillar begins to change into a butterfly. This complete change is called **metamorphosis** (*met-uh-mor-fuh-sis*). The change happens quickly! Soon, the chrysalis opens and an **adult butterfly** emerges. When the butterfly first comes out, its wings are damp, so it spreads

them out to dry. Butterflies learn to fly quickly after their wings have dried. Then, an adult butterfly lays eggs, and the life cycle starts all over again.



Like all cycles, the life cycle of a butterfly repeats itself over and over. Can you think of any other cycles?

# THE LIFE OF A BUTTERFLY

- 1 Do butterflies have live babies or do they lay eggs?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2 What happens during the caterpillar stage of the life cycle?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3 What needs to happen for butterflies to be able to fly?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4 In your own words, explain what chrysalis means.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Choose a nonfiction text feature used in this passage. Explain how it helps you understand the topic.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☐ RED: bold text

☐ ORANGE: pronunciation

☐ YELLOW: labels

☐ GREEN: diagram

☐ BLUE: heading

☐ PURPLE: text box

Examples of text features