

Science

Vocabulary Readers

Butterfly Life Cycle



Have you ever seen
a caterpillar? This book will
show you how it becomes
a beautiful butterfly!

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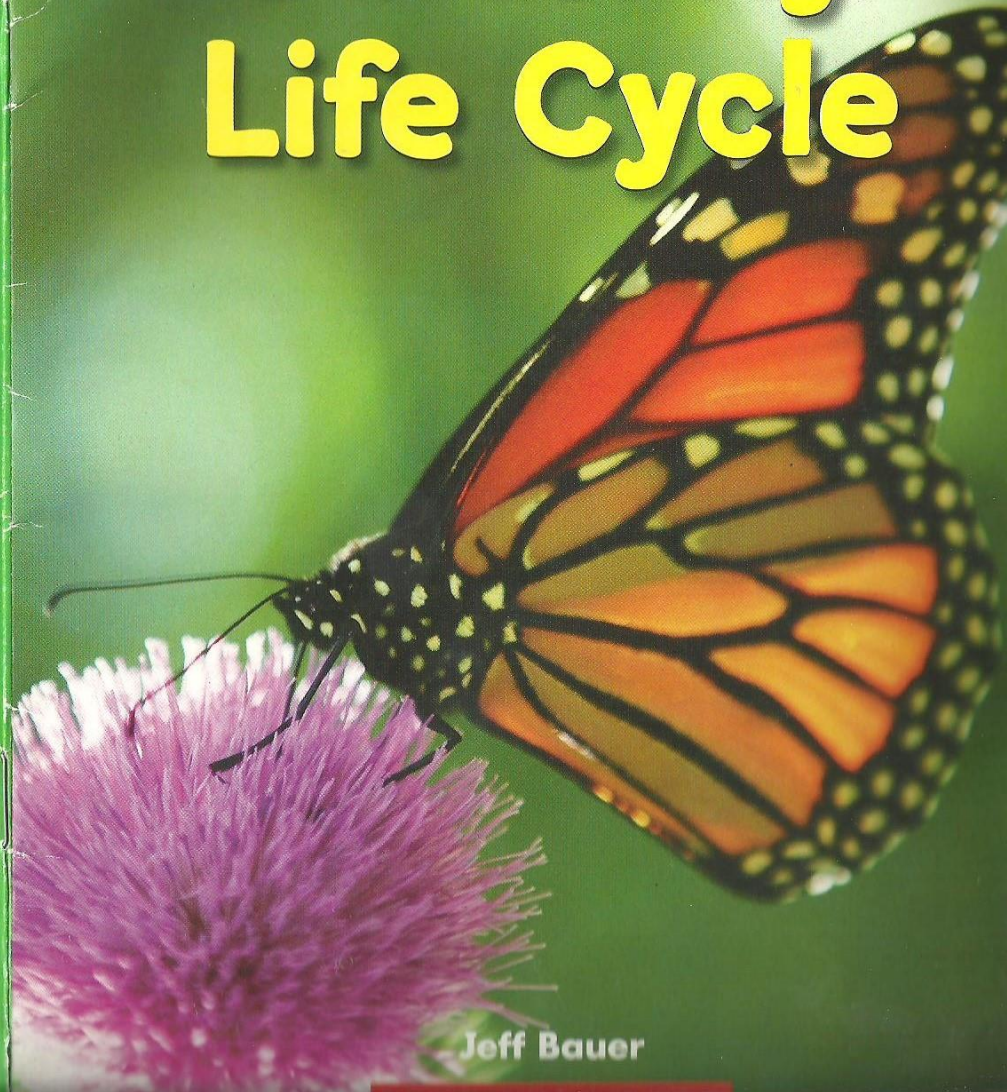


Level 10

Science

Vocabulary Readers

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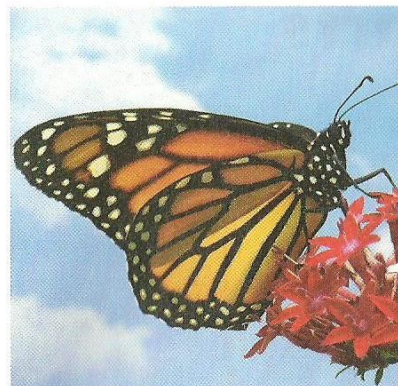
Jeff Bauer

Chapter 1

All About Butterflies



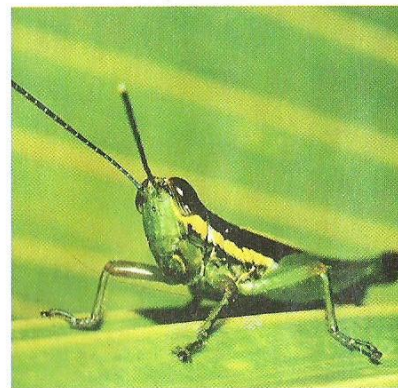
Look! It's a butterfly. This book will tell you about the lives of these beautiful bugs.



monarch butterfly



ant



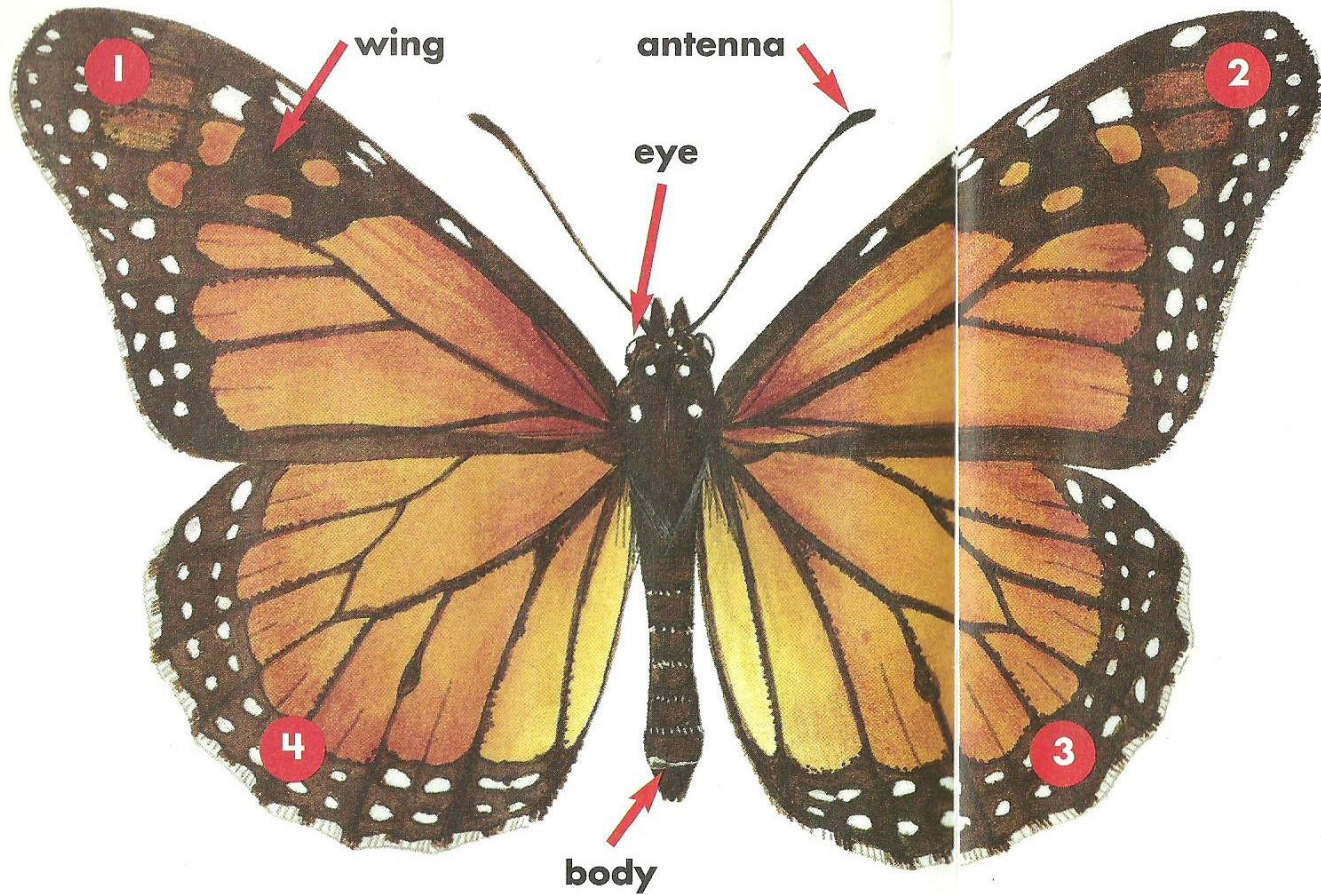
grasshopper



ladybug

Butterflies are insects. They have six legs just like ants, grasshoppers, and ladybugs.

Butterfly Parts

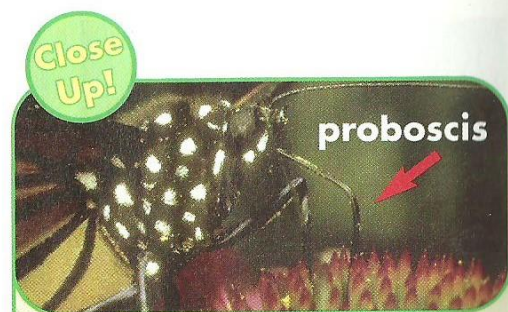


Butterflies have four wings. Each wing is covered with thousands of tiny scales. The scales give butterfly wings their bright colors.



Close Up!

The **scales** of a wing look like this close up.



Close Up!

proboscis

A **proboscis** (proh-boss-is) looks like this close up.

Butterflies drink their meals through a thin tube called a proboscis. Their favorite meal is **nectar**, which they suck up from flowers.

**Fast
Fact**

There are 17,500 kinds of butterflies. How do you think the ones here got their names?



tiger butterfly



peacock butterfly



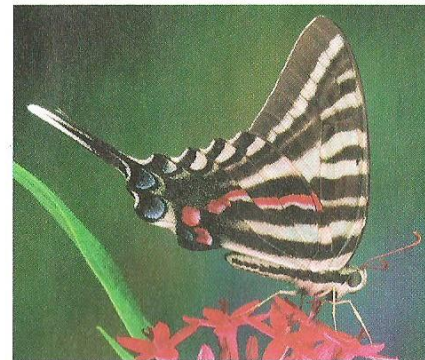
emerald butterfly



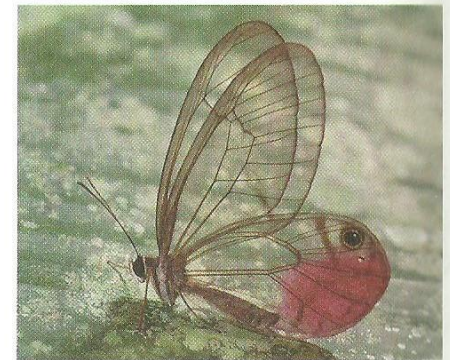
89 butterfly



owl butterfly



**zebra swallowtail
butterfly**



glasswing butterfly

Butterflies come in all different colors. Some have spots. Some have stripes. Some seem like they have painted wings!

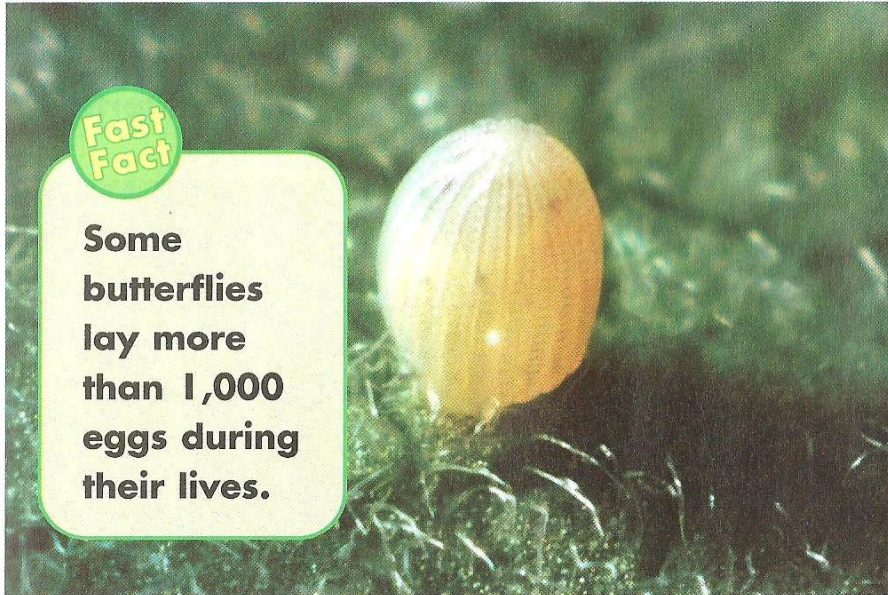
But butterflies do not begin their lives looking this way. Let's take a peek at the life cycle of a **monarch** to see how they grow and change.

Chapter 2

Egg to Caterpillar

Fast Fact

Some butterflies lay more than 1,000 eggs during their lives.

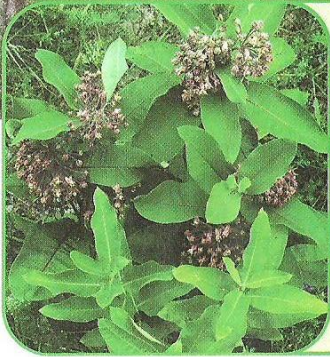
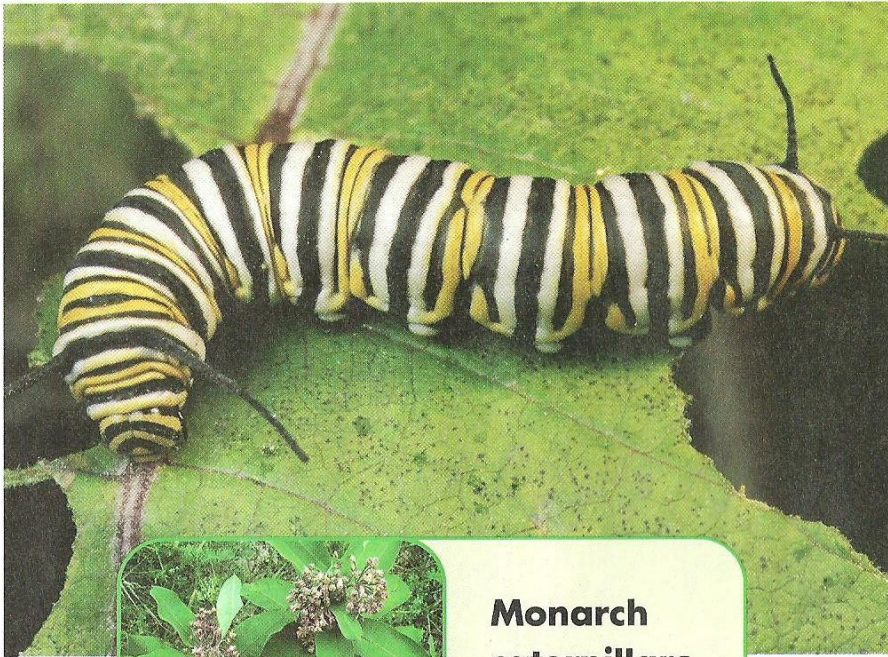


A female monarch lays an egg on a leaf. The egg is tiny. One egg is about the size of the period at the end of this sentence.

Newborn caterpillars look like this.



After a few days, the egg hatches. Out wiggles a hungry **caterpillar**. First the caterpillar eats its own eggshell. Then it starts munching leaves.



Monarch caterpillars only eat milkweed plants.

Crunch, crunch, crunch! The caterpillar keeps eating and growing and changing. It starts out small and white. But soon it becomes long and covered with colorful stripes.



Fast Fact

Monarch caterpillars have 16 little legs.

After about two weeks, the caterpillar takes a rest. It attaches to a twig or leaf and hangs upside down. Something amazing is about to happen!

Chapter 3

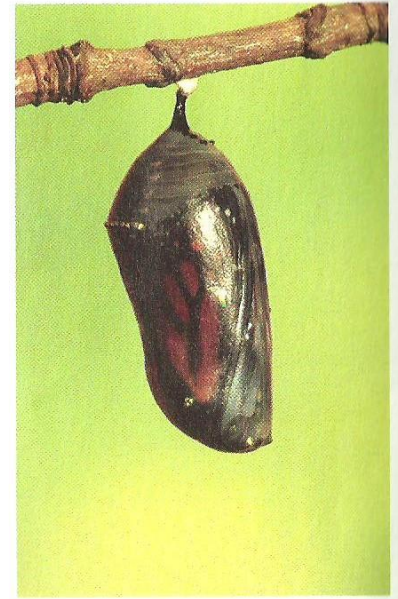
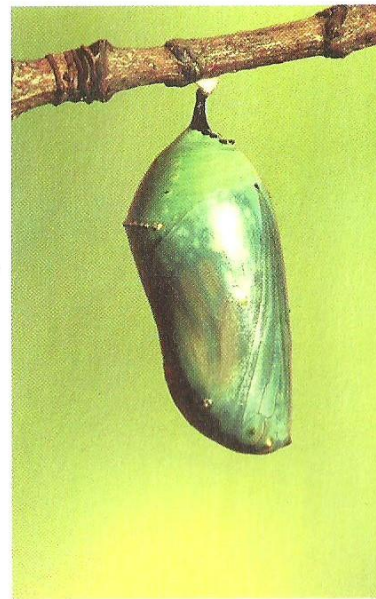
Chrysalis to Butterfly



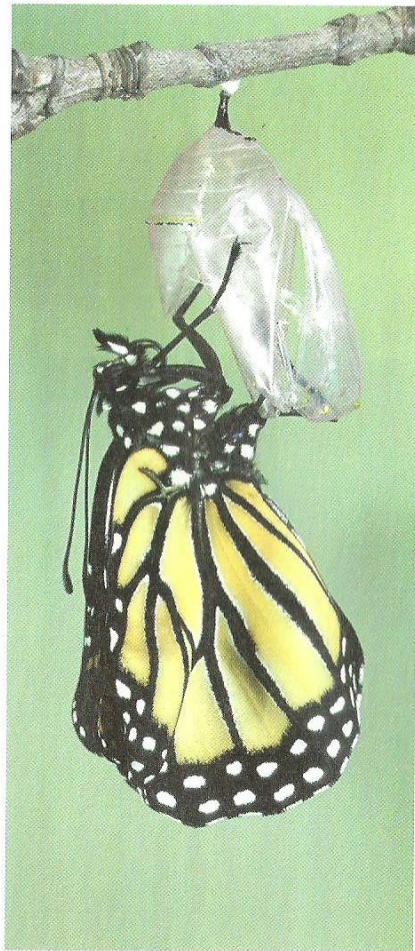
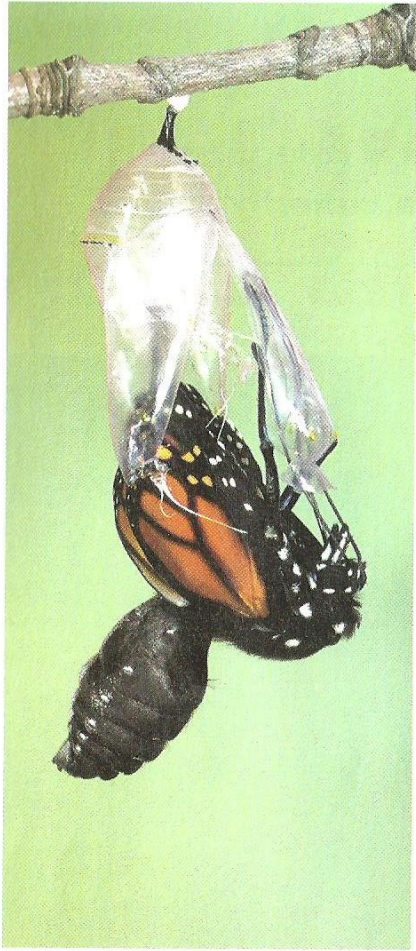
The caterpillar becomes a wrapped-up package called a **chrysalis**. Inside the package, exciting changes are taking place.

Fast Fact

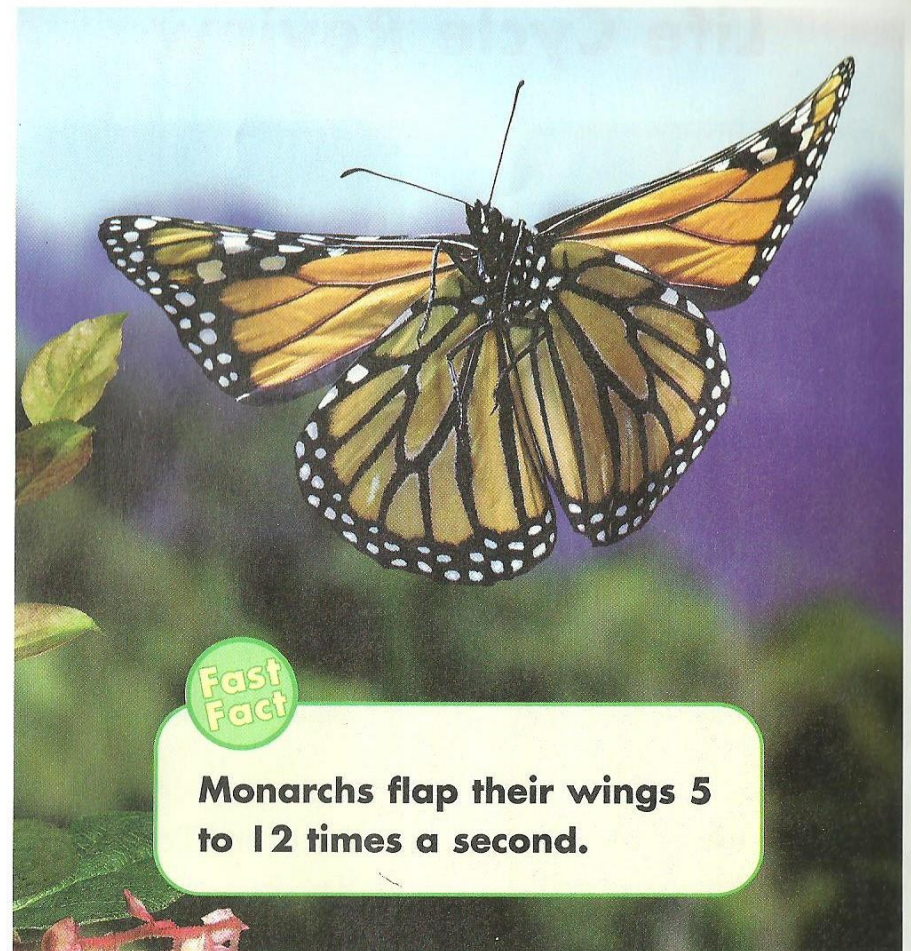
A chrysalis protects a caterpillar as it changes into a butterfly.



The chrysalis turns from green to clear. Presto change-o! The caterpillar has become a butterfly!



Guess what happens next? The butterfly breaks out of the chrysalis. Then it unfolds its wings, which are soft and **damp**.

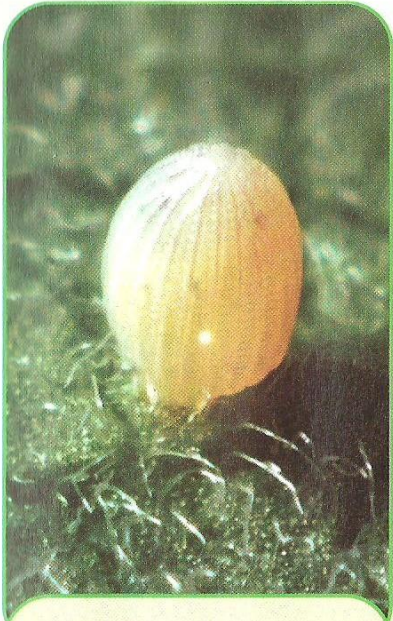


Fast
Fact

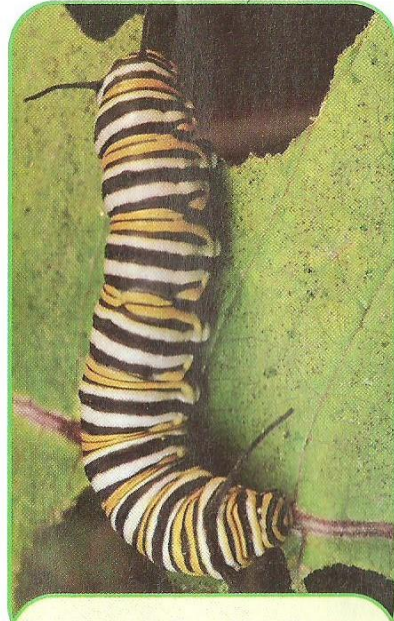
Monarchs flap their wings 5 to 12 times a second.

The brand-new butterfly waits in the sun for its wings to dry. Then, flutter, flutter! Away it flies.

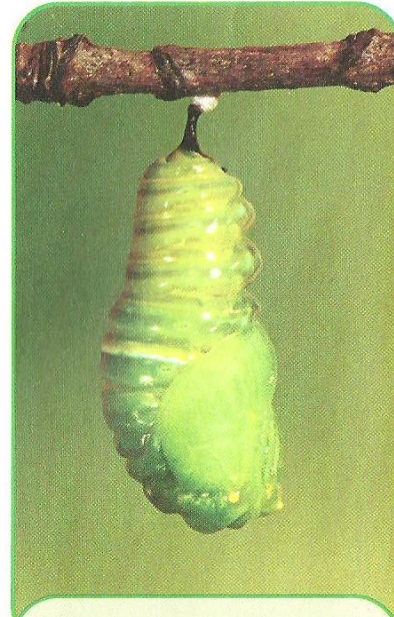
Life Cycle Review



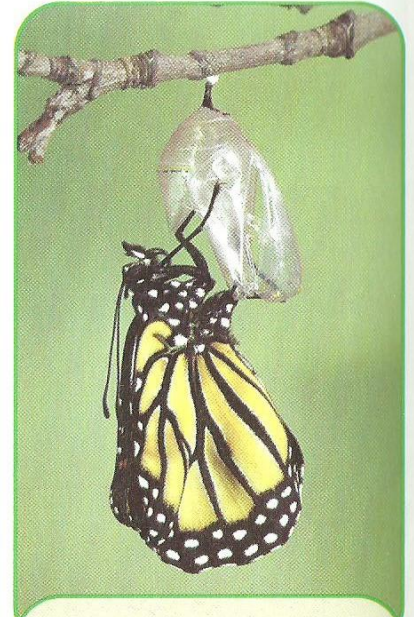
1 Day:
The female butterfly lays an egg on a leaf.



4 Days:
A caterpillar hatches. It grows and grows.



2 Weeks:
A caterpillar becomes a chrysalis.



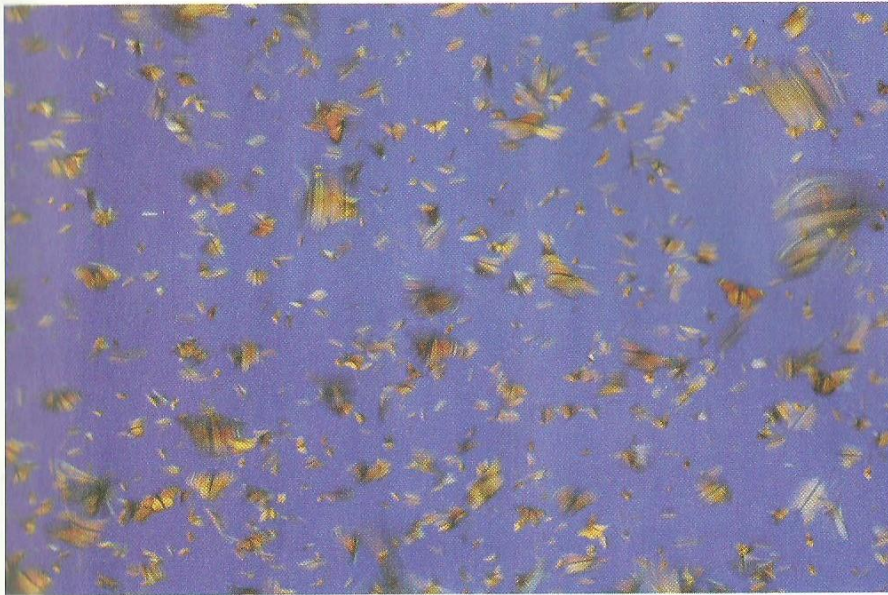
1 Month:
A butterfly breaks out of the chrysalis.

Do you remember the four main steps in a monarch butterfly's life cycle? Take a look!

The life cycle of a monarch butterfly lasts for about one month.

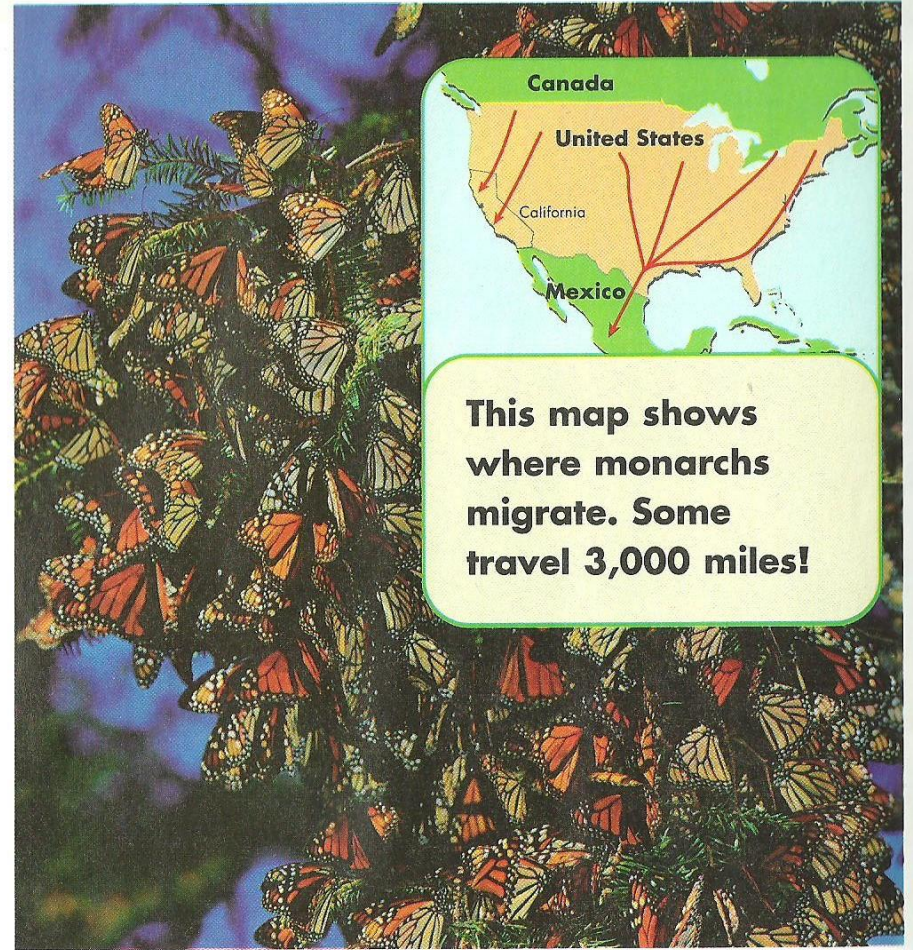
Chapter 4

All Grown-up!



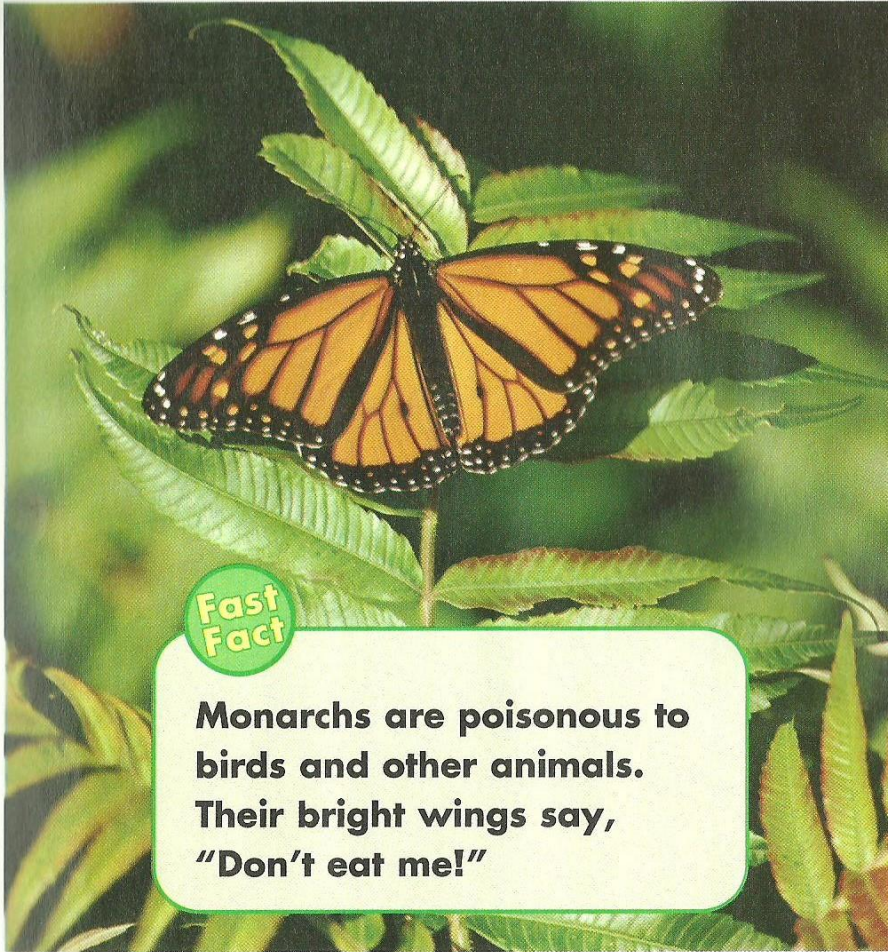
Monarchs travel in big groups called **flocks**.

In fall, monarch butterflies do what birds do. They fly south for the winter! This is called **migration**.



This map shows where monarchs migrate. Some travel **3,000 miles!**

Some monarchs go to California and some go to Mexico. Along the way, they rest in trees.



**Fast
Fact**

Monarchs are poisonous to birds and other animals. Their bright wings say, "Don't eat me!"

In early spring, the monarchs fly back north. A female lays an egg on a leaf. Then the butterfly life cycle will begin all over again!

Glossary

caterpillar (**kat**-ur-pil-ur): the worm-like creature that turns into a butterfly

chrysalis (**kri**ss-uh-liss): the stage of development between caterpillar and butterfly

damp (**damp**): a little wet

flock (**flok**): a group of animals that travel together

migration (**mye**-gray-shuhn): to move from one place to another on a regular basis

monarch (**mon**-urk): a big, orange-and-black butterfly that lives in North America

nectar (**nek**-tur): a sugary liquid that butterflies and bees collect from flowers

proboscis (proh-**boss**-is): a straw-like tube that bugs use to drink liquid

scale (**skale**): one of the small pieces of skin that covers a butterfly wing

Comprehension Questions

1. Can you name three parts of a butterfly?
2. Can you share three facts about caterpillars?
3. Can you retell the four main parts of a butterfly's life cycle?
4. Can you think of four words to describe a butterfly?

Bonus Butterfly Facts

- Butterflies use their antennae to smell.
- Butterflies use their feet to taste.
- Queen Alexandra's birdwing is the biggest butterfly. It measures nearly a foot with its wings spread!



