

Monarch Life Cycle Stages Model



Eggs – Monarch butterflies lay their eggs on individual milkweed plant leaves which are specifically chosen by this species for this purpose. The process from egg to adult butterfly takes about 30 days.

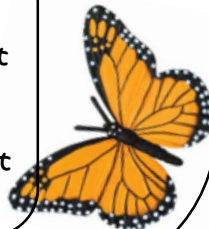
Caterpillar – The caterpillar hatches from the egg in 3 to 12 days. As soon as it emerges, the caterpillar begins to eat milkweed leaves.



Chrysalis – The caterpillar encases itself in a beautiful jade green shell with gold markings. This coloration camouflages the shell while inside the caterpillar begins the transformation into a butterfly.



Monarch Butterfly – When the butterfly is mature it breaks out of the chrysalis. The monarch's wings are folded up, and they must be pumped up by the butterfly in order to straighten them. Once the wings are dry the butterfly can fly. After 2 to 5 weeks the adult butterfly will reproduce and lay eggs.



Honey Bee Life Cycle Stages Model



Egg – The queen bee lays between 1500 and 2000 pinhead-sized eggs each in its own cell. The queen is able to lay both fertilized eggs that produce queens or sterile female workers and unfertilized eggs that produce male drones.

Larva – After 3 to 4 days the eggs hatch into larvae which are fed by worker bees. A future queen is fed "royal jelly" a substance secreted from glands in the heads of worker bees. A future worker is fed "bee bread" which is a mixture of pollen and nectar.



Pupa – At this stage the pupa does not eat, begins losing its worm shape and starts to develop the eyes, wings and legs of an adult bee. This stage takes 6 days for a future queen and 11 days for a worker.



Honey Bee – The adult bees have different jobs and life spans. Sterile female workers live 20 to 40 days, tend to young bees and guard the hive entrance or are field workers that collect pollen, nectar and water. Drones live 30 to 90 days and their only role is to mate with the queen.

