
Butterflies

Ibook



Butterflies

This Ibook is an research
about butterflies.
Let's learn a little more
about this insect!



Butterfly

Butterflies and moths go through a life cycle known as complete metamorphosis. The stages of their life cycle include: egg, larva, pupa, and adult.

Here you found information of each life stage, as well as illustrations showing each stage in the life cycle.

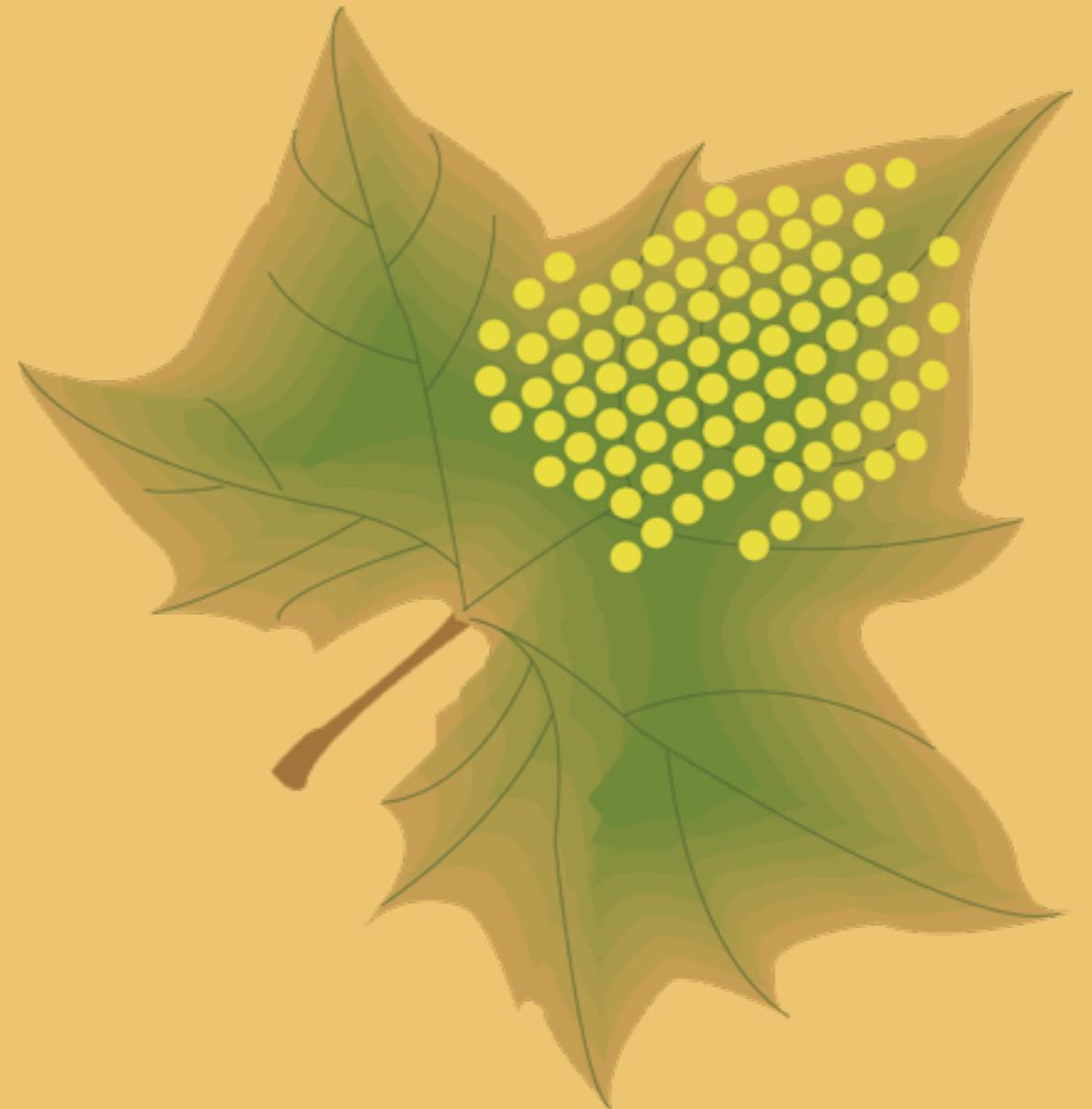


During the caterpillar

1. Egg

Every butterfly begins its life as an EGG. Female butterflies are very picky about where they lay their eggs! This is because caterpillars are very picky about what they will eat!

Each species of butterfly will only eat a single plant as caterpillars. This particular plant that a caterpillar must have is called the HOST PLANT for that species of butterfly.



During the caterpillar

2.
Larvae

When a butterfly or moth larva (also Caterpillars) first hatches from its egg, it is very small! This young caterpillar is referred to as a FIRST INSTAR caterpillar. A caterpillar has only one job: to eat! Many species of caterpillars begin their feast by eating their egg shell, which contains plenty of nutrients. Other species of caterpillars immediately begin eating the tender, small parts of leaves.



During the caterpillar

3.
Pupa

Caterpillars face a challenge as they grow! Unfortunately, their skin cannot grow with them! In order for a caterpillar to grow larger than the skin it had when it hatched, it must make a new, larger skin! The caterpillar does this by first growing a new skin underneath the outer skin. Then, when it is ready, it "sheds" the old skin, and the newer, larger skin underneath is exposed. This process is properly called **MOLTING**. After the caterpillar has molted for the first time, it is referred to as a **SECOND INSTAR**, and it has some room to grow.



During the caterpillar

4.
Adult

After approximately 10 to 14 days as a chrysalis, the butterfly is ready to emerge. When the butterfly emerges from its chrysalis, its wings are small and wet, and the butterfly cannot yet fly. The butterfly must pump fluids from its abdomen through the veins in its wings, which causes the wings to expand to their full size. Next, the wings must dry and the butterfly must exercise flight muscles before it can fly.

