



1st Grade

Unit 2: Explore My Neighborhood

Essential Question #2: How do living things meet their needs in my neighborhood?

Lesson Title: Exploring the Life Cycle of Frogs and Butterflies

Standard IV, Objective 2

Implementation Time: Two Days, 40 Minutes each day

Media Resources Needed:

The Mysterious Tadpole by Steven Kellogg; *From Tadpole to Frog* by Wendy Pfeffer;
What is a Cycle? by Lisa Trumbauer; (or any book on the life cycle of a frog)
The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle;
Born to be a Butterfly by Karen Wallace (DK Publishers)
Optional DVD: *All About Animal Life Cycles*, Animal Life for Children Video Series

Materials Needed:

Big Frog cut-out (two per student)	Art Paper
Stapler	Crayons
Scissors	Colored construction paper
“Life Cycle of a Frog” copy (per student)	Rice (or “frog eye” pasta)
Butterfly Workbook	Shell noodles
Glue	Pipe Cleaners

Procedure:

Day One: Frogs

1. Optional: Show the DVD *All About Animal Life Cycles*. Stop and discuss as you go along. Only show the first portion of the video that deals with the frog life cycle (the rest of the video is about reptiles) Discuss what an **amphibian** is: an animal such as a frog, that lives in water and breathes with gills during its early life stage and that develops lungs and breathes air as an adult.
2. Read *The Mysterious Tadpole* by Kellogg and discuss or read any book on the lifecycle of a frog.
3. Pass out two copies of Big Frogs on green paper and the Lifecycle of a Frog page. Instruct the students to cut out the Big Green frogs. Staple the bottom of the two frogs together to make a pocket.



4. Allow the children to color and cut out the sequencing cards on the Lifecycle of a Frog sheet. They can put the cards in order and place them in the frog “pocket”.
5. Instruct the children to find an open space. Allow them to act out with their bodies the life cycle of the frog, e.g., egg=lying on floor, tadpole=small animal swimming around room, etc.

Day 2: Butterfly Life Cycles

6. Read *A Butterfly is Born* to show the life cycle of a butterfly.
7. Show an example of a completed Butterfly Book using their rice (or frog eye pasta) as eggs, pipe cleaner as a caterpillar, and the shell noodle to show the chrysalis. The colored paper is used for the butterfly.
8. Pass out the supplies. Have the children make the books by stapling the cover and pages together. Color and cut apart the butterfly life cycle cards and glue in place in the book. Decorate the colored cards: Paste rice on the leaf in square 1. Paste the pipe cleaner piece on the leaf in square 2. Paste the shell noodle on the branch in square 3. Paste a cut-out of a butterfly in square 4. (use any clipart for the butterfly)

Assessment:

Review the students’ work on placing the frog cards in order.
Review the butterfly books

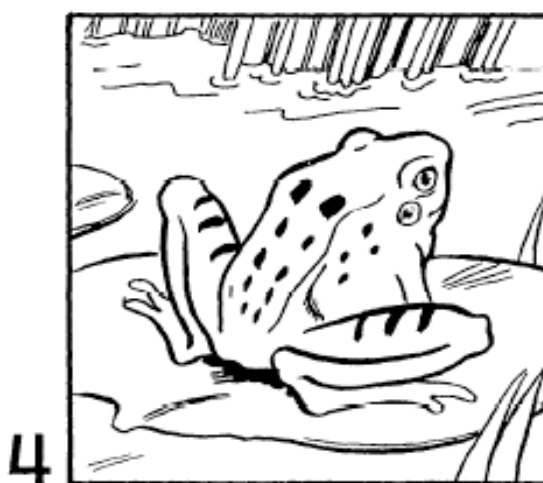
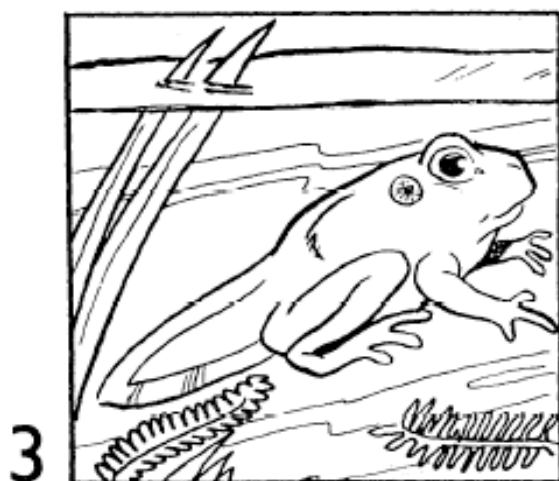
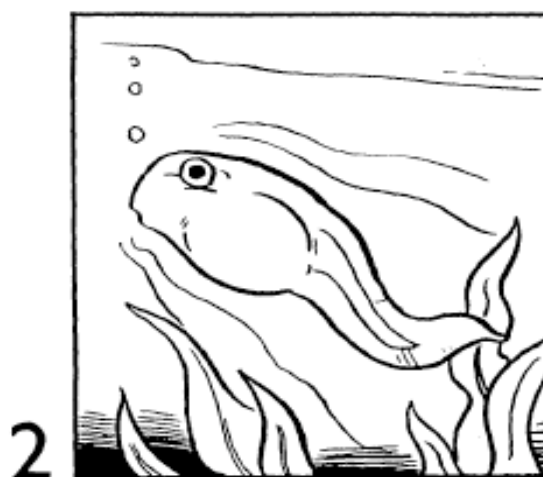
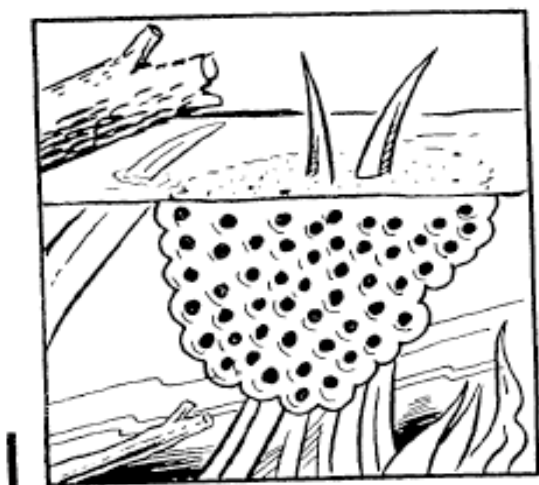
Have students pretend to be the caterpillar turning into a butterfly as you describe the cycle. Students curl up on the floor and hold very still in the “chrysalis”, then they start to wiggle (keeping their arms close to their body), start to stretch your arms, flap your “wings” in place, then start to “fly” around the room. If you have colorful scarves the students could use them as their “wings.”

Extension:

Technology: Show an animation of the frog life cycle (such as http://www.harcourtschool.com/activity/science_up_close/212/deploy/interface.html) or do an internet search for “frog life cycle animation” or check Youtube.com for “Sesame Street frog life cycle”

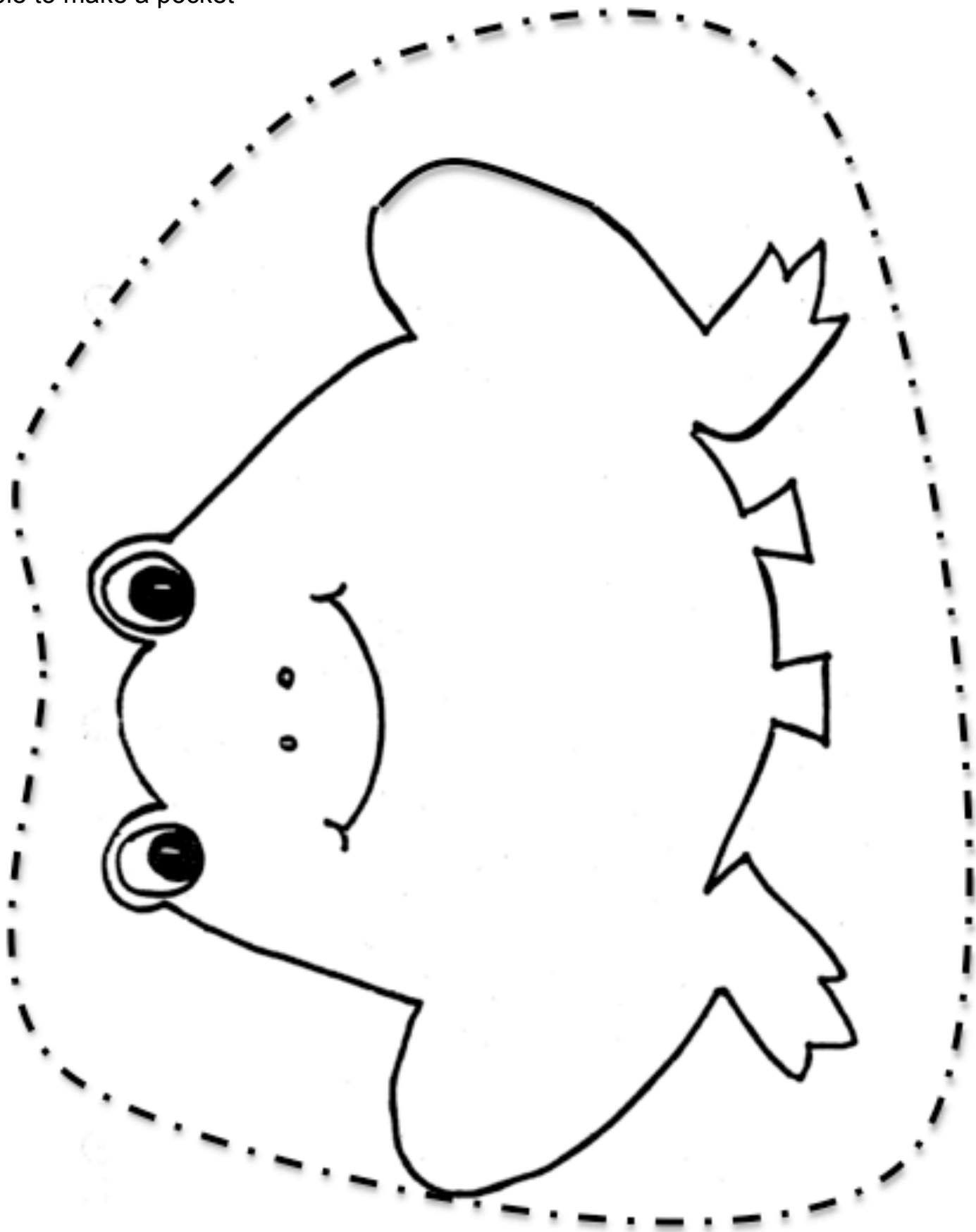
Animals: You can hatch real butterflies in class! Insect Lore (www.insectlore.com) sells whole kits or just the caterpillars (Amazon.com sells the same kits for less and offers free shipping) expect to pay less than \$20 for a kit.

Life Cycle of a Frog





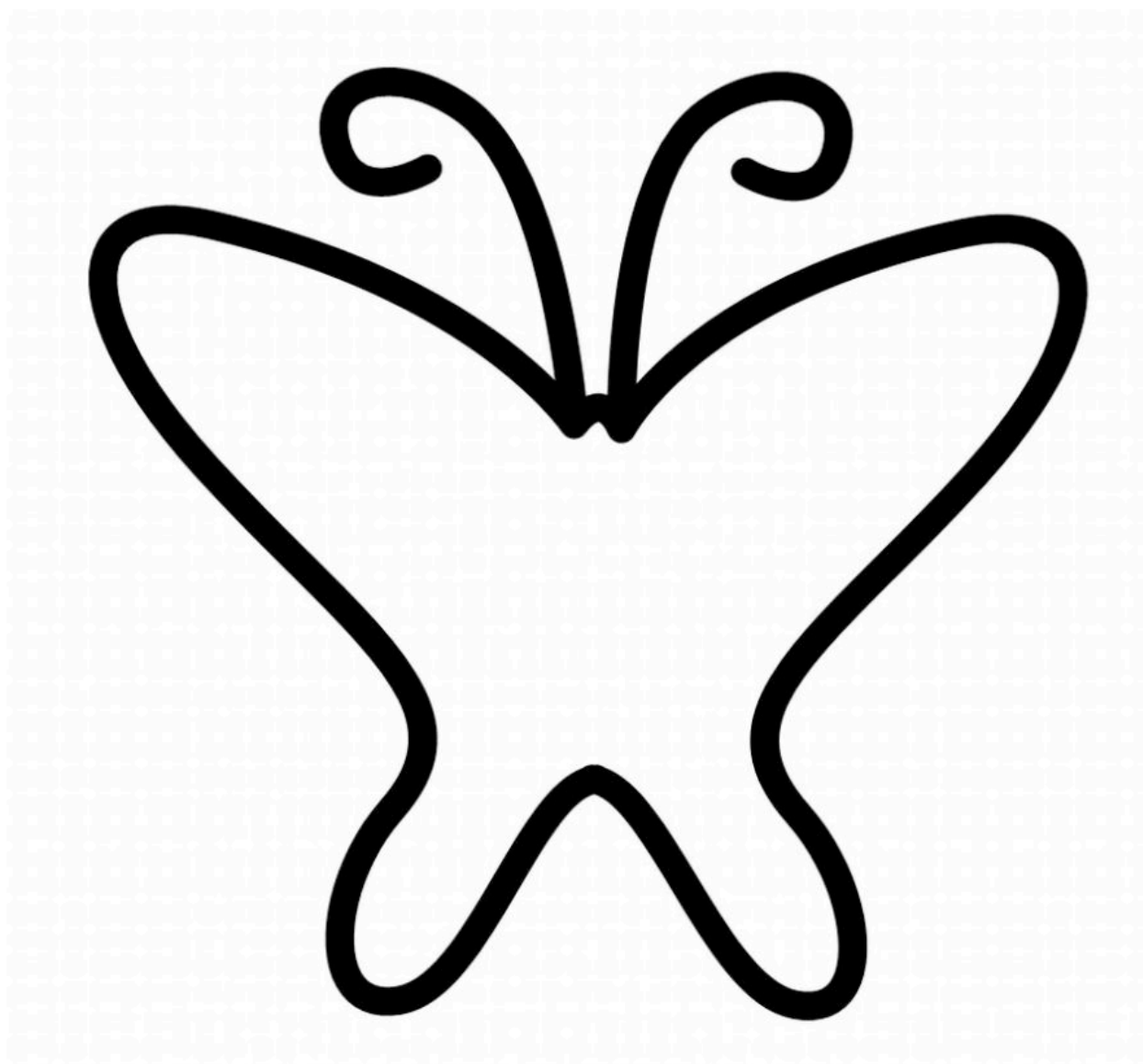
Color. Cut on dotted line.
Staple to make a pocket





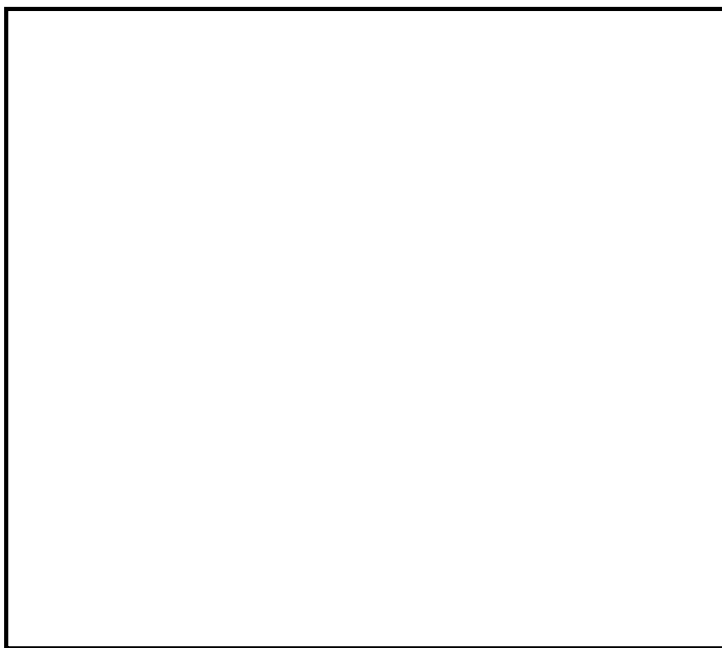
My Butterfly Book

Name: _____

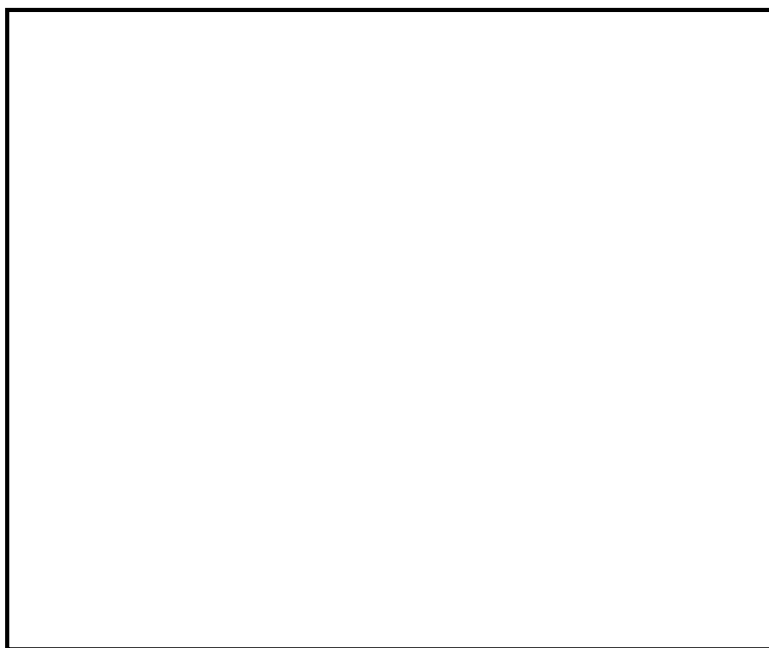




A butterfly lays eggs on a leaf.

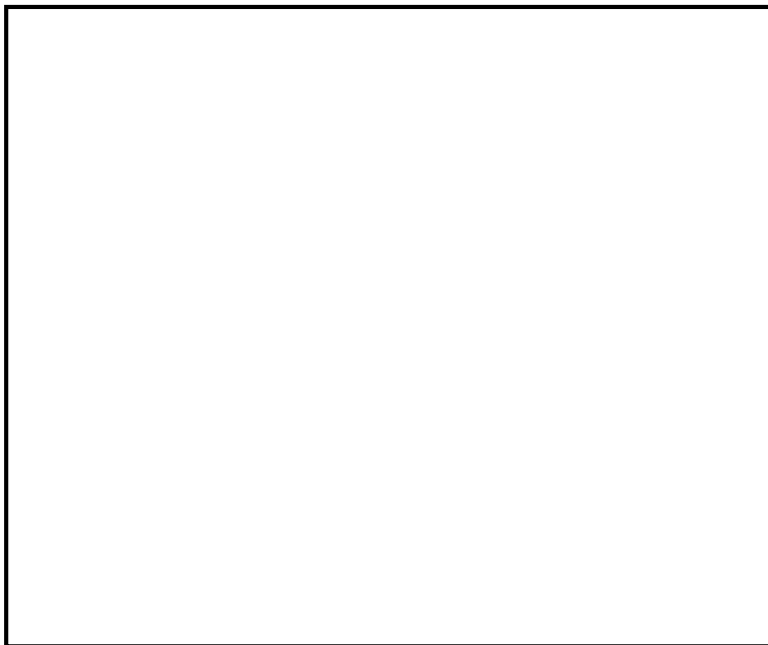


A caterpillar hatches from the egg.

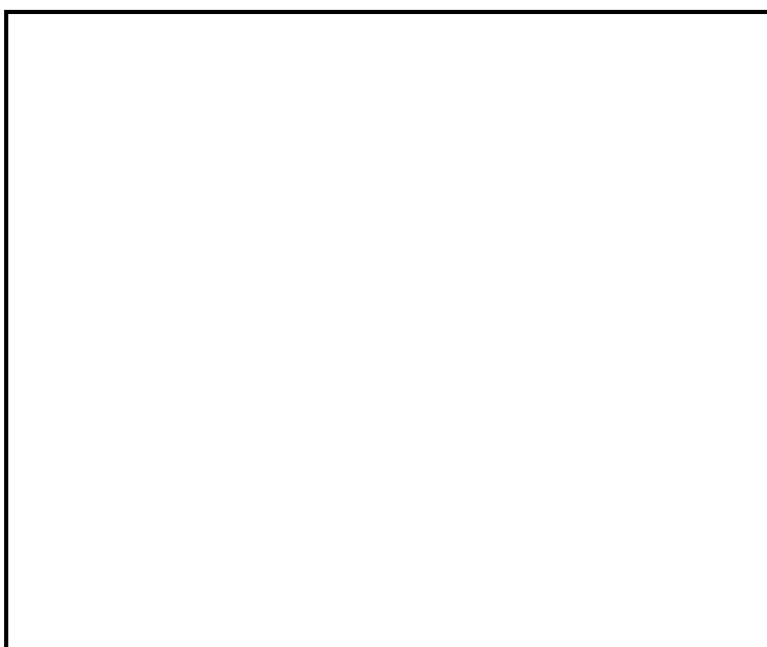




A caterpillar turns into a chrysalis.



A butterfly comes out of a chrysalis.



Butterfly

Caterpillar



Butterfly



Eggs



Chrysalis

