

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."

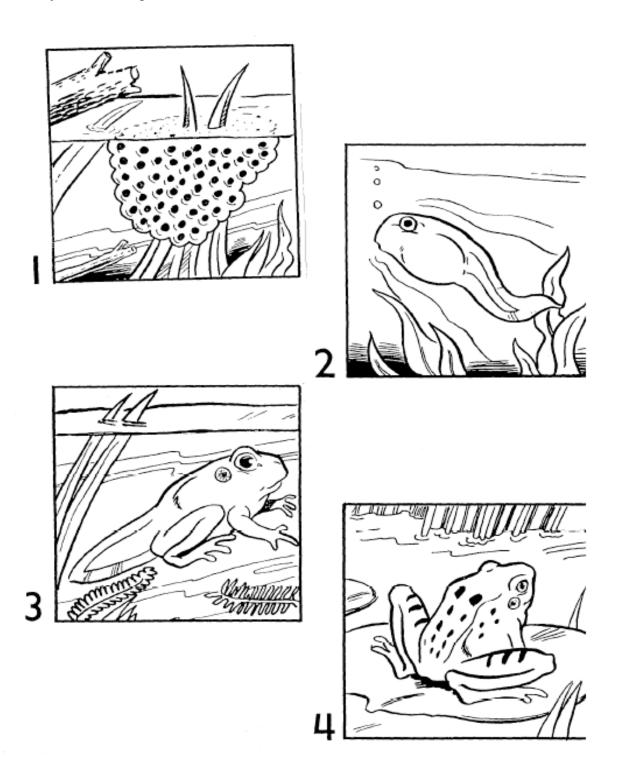
Extension:

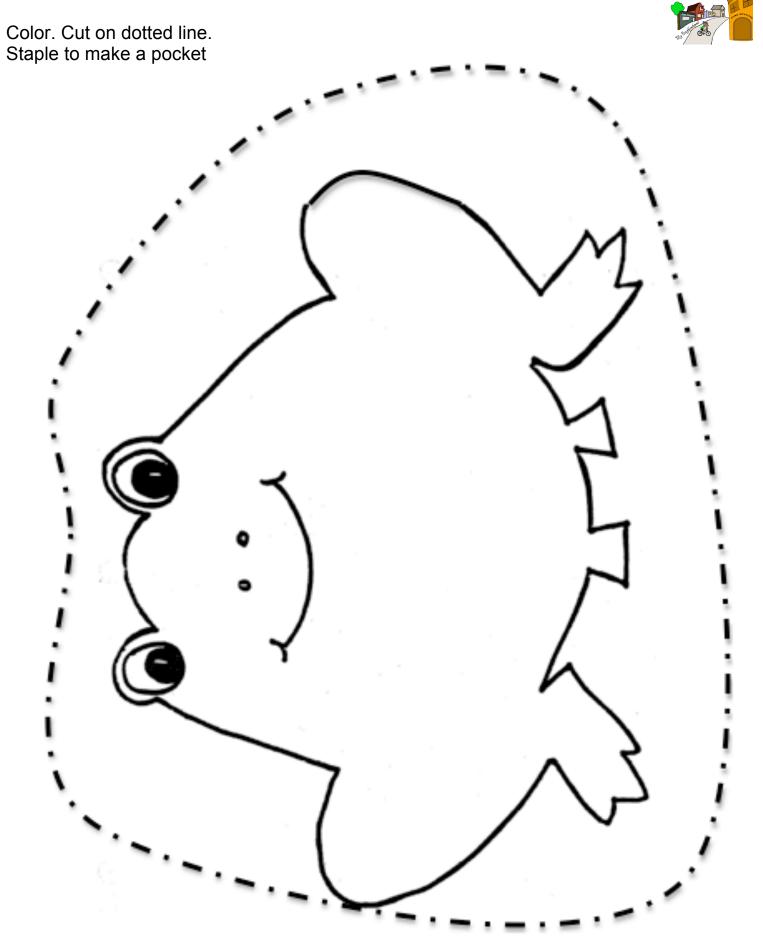
Technology: Show an animation of the frog life cycle (such as http://www.harcourtschool.com/activity/science up close/212/deploy/interface.html) or do an internet search for "frog life cycle animation" or check Youtube.com for "Sesame Street frog life cycle"

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

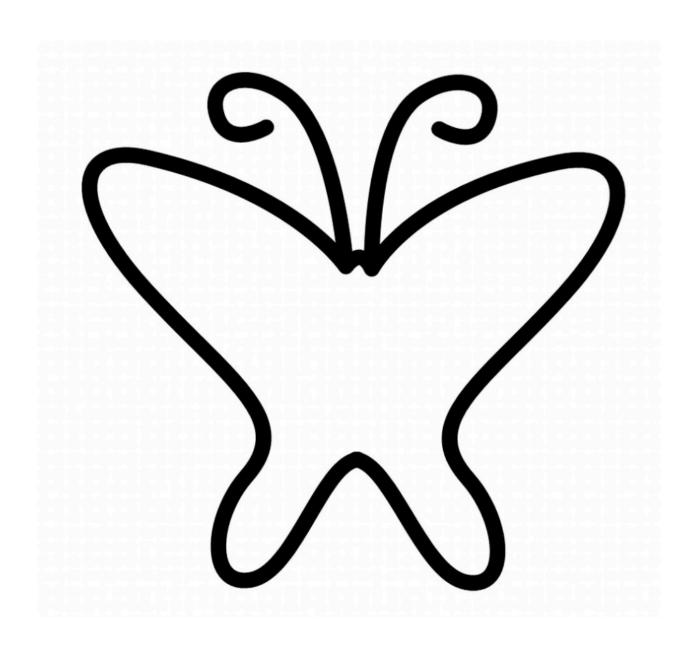






My Butterfly Book

Name:





A butt	erfly	lays	eggs	on	a
leaf.					

A caterpillar hatches from the egg.



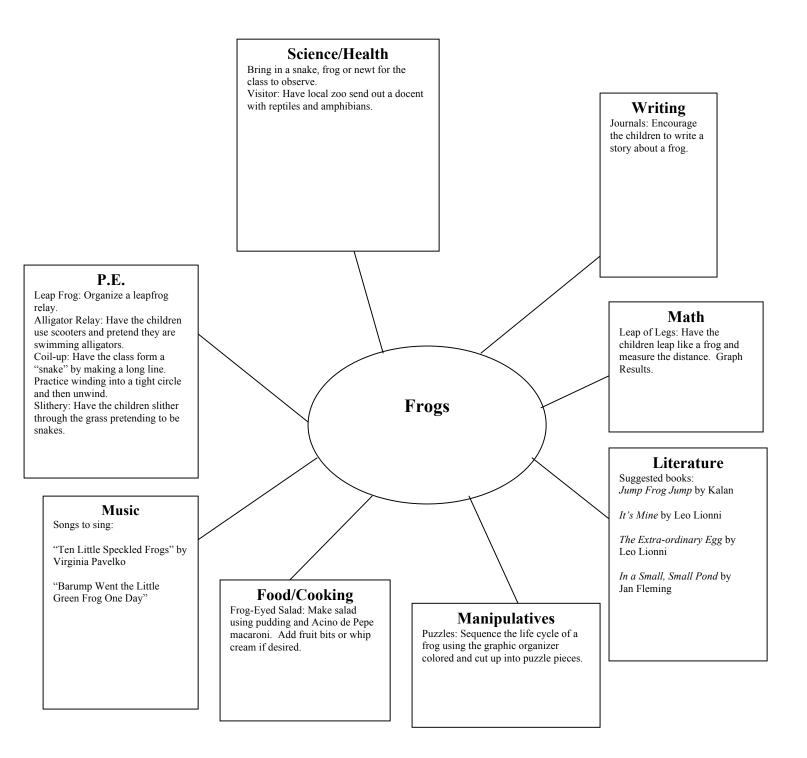
•	ar turns into a
chrysalis.	

A butterfly comes out of a chrysalis.



Butterfly Caterpillar Butterfly Chrysalis Eggs







ART

<u>Puppet:</u> Make a caterpillar puppet using a sock. Fill, tie off, and let children paint to decorate. Pipe cleaners can be used for antennae. <u>Butterfly:</u> Make a butterfly using plastic baggy. Tie middle with yarn to make wings. Add eyes and antennae.

Science/Health

<u>Metamorphosis:</u> Have the children create the metamorphosis of a butterfly using pasta.

Eggs=rice

Curly noodles=caterpillar Big shell macaroni=chrysalis Pasta bows=butterfly

Social Studies

Changes: Using the metamorphosis of the caterpillar, discuss changes in relationships, people, things, etc.

Review: Review the days of the week while reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*.

Writing

Writing Ideas: Have the children write or draw what they would do and what they would eat if they were a caterpillar

P.E.

<u>Butterfly Dance</u>: Give the children brightly colored scarves and let them dance like butterflies to music.

BUTTERFLIES AND CATERPILLARS

Math

Symmetry: Discuss how a butterfly is the same on both sides. Have children paint one wing of a butterfly and fold over. Press down to make two

Sequence: Give the children round circles numbered 1-10 or 1-20. Each circle is a different color. Have them put the numbers in order to build the caterpillar.

Music

Butterfly Parade: Children decorate big butterfly wings with colored paper and paints. Pin them to their shoulders. Head bands are also made using pipe cleaners. The children dress up as butterflies and go on a parade through the school.

Food/Cooking

<u>Caterpillar Salad:</u> Make a salad to go with *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*.

Probiscus Drinking: Give each child a cup with yellow colored juice and a straw. Compare their drinking with that of a butterfly drinking with probiscus.

Manipulatives

Blocks: Have the children make a butterfly with flat wood pattern blocks. Silhouettes: Have the children match butterfly pictures to their silhouettes.

Literature

The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle

The Lamb and the Butterfly by Eric Carle