

Little Lifecycles Teacher Guide

Field Trip Description

Explore how animal babies grow and change as they become adults by acting out parts of bird, frog, and insect life cycles, and see exciting specimens from our Naturalist Center. **SC State Standards:** CD-1, CD-10, CD-11, ILS1-1

Objectives

- Students will understand that a bird hatches from an egg.
- Students will be able to explain that some young animals look very different from their parents.
- Students will be able to explain the changes frogs and insects go through as they grow into adults.

Vocabulary

Caterpillar: the larva, or middle life stage, of a moth or butterfly.

Tadpole: a young frog or toad. A tadpole lives in water and has gills and a tail.

Butterfly: an insect with four large wings that flies mostly in the daytime.

Moth: an insect that has broad wings and flies mostly at night.

Nest: a structure used by a bird to lay eggs and rear young.

Cocoon: a covering made by young insects and some other arthropods to protect themselves while they change from a pupa into an adult.

Chrysalis: the hard outside covering on a moth or butterfly while it is a pupa, the stage before it becomes an adult with wings. Many kinds of moths and butterflies make a chrysalis instead of a cocoon.

Pre-Visit

(suggestions to prepare students for the field trip)

- Discuss the idea that not all animal babies look like their parents when they are born, and can sometimes live in different habitats than their parents.
- Review the vocabulary list with the students. These are words they will be hearing during their visit.
- Watch "[Welcome to the Museum!](#)"

Post-Visit

(suggestions to reinforce concepts learned on the field trip)

- Quiz students on the vocabulary learned at the Museum.
- Have students observe insects on the school playground or at home (no touching of the insects; looking only). Can they determine if the insect is an adult or baby? Why did they come to this conclusion?
- Have students act out a bird hatching from an egg, or a caterpillar turning into a moth or butterfly in the classroom, replicating what they did at the Museum.