

Lesson 4: Life Cycles and Metamorphosis



- I understand the life cycles of different animals
- I can explain metamorphosis

Quick Quiz!

Complete these sentences:

Fertilisation occurs when _____.

The young of reptiles, _____ and _____ develop in an _____.

Internal fertilization occurs _____.

whereas external fertilization occurs _____.

Glossary	
extinct	the species has died out
suckle	feed a baby with breast milk
metamorphosis	A change in the form of an animal eg maggot to a fly



Last week, you learnt about reproduction in animals. All animals reproduce in order to keep their species alive on Earth. If animals stop reproducing their species would die out (become extinct). Part of the function of the adults of a species is to create young and ensure they survive.

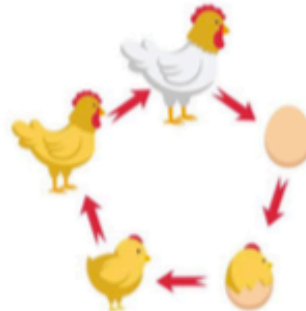


Which came first: the chicken or the egg?

This diagram shows the life cycle of a chicken. Why do you think it is called a life cycle?

Where does it begin? Does it end?

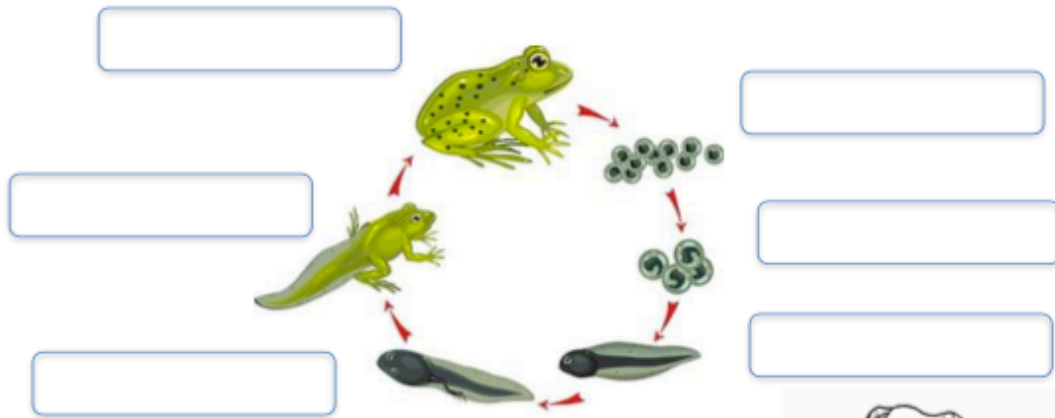
Watch this [film](#) to learn more.



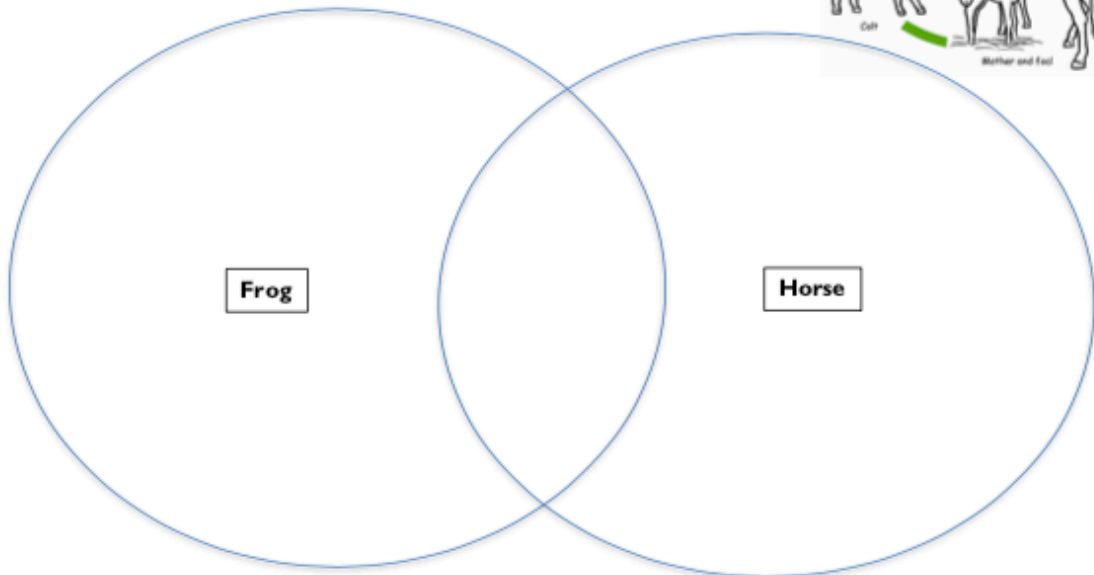
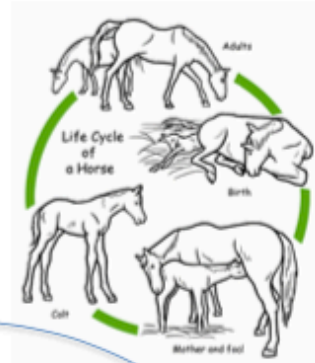
Life Cycles

All living things exist in a life cycle, with adults producing offspring which then go onto become adult and produce offspring of their own. Watch this [film](#) describing the life cycle of a frog. A frog is an amphibian, which means it has a particular kind of life cycle. A frog goes through **metamorphosis** – it changes form completely from young to old.

Can you label each part of the frog's life cycle?



How is the life cycle of a frog different from / similar to that of a horse?



 Like humans, a horse is a mammal. Mammals give birth to live young and suckle them.

Watch this [film](#) describing the life cycle of a human.



There are 6 stages in the life cycle of a human. Can you number them in the right order? Then get into groups and **Freeze Frame** the 6 stages of the life cycle of a human?

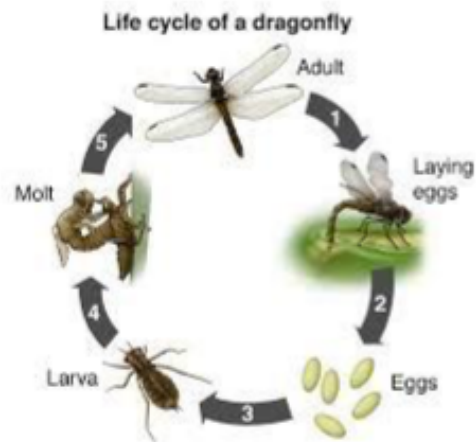
- Adulthood
Your body is fully developed.
- Adolescence
Children become teenagers.
- Childhood
At this stage, you learn to walk and talk.
- Foetus
At this time, a baby is growing inside its mum's womb.
- Old age
The last stage in the life cycle of a human.
- Baby
A baby is born after spending nine months inside the womb.



Metamorphosis

Like frogs, many insects undergo **metamorphosis** during their life cycle. A butterfly transforms from a caterpillar into a totally different adult form whereas animals like horses and humans do not undergo metamorphosis. The young of a horse resembles the adult form of the animal, as does the young of a human.

Look at the life cycles of the butterfly and the dragonfly on the next page. How are they similar? At what point does metamorphosis occur?



The life cycles of the dragonfly and butterfly are similar because _____
