

Butterfly Life Steps

Track time order and cause and effect in an informational text.

3.RI.1.B "Summarize texts using language that pertains to time, sequence, and cause and effect, referring to historical events, scientific ideas, or steps in technical procedures."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words that show time or sequence. Circle one cause and its effect in each paragraph, so you can use them in a summary.

From Egg to Butterfly

- ① Many butterflies begin life as tiny eggs on plant leaves. After a few days, a caterpillar hatches. The caterpillar eats leaves and grows quickly. As it grows, its skin becomes too tight. Then the caterpillar sheds its old skin. It may shed its skin several times before it is ready for the next stage of its life.
- ② Next, the full-grown caterpillar attaches itself to a twig or leaf. It forms a hard case called a chrysalis. Inside the chrysalis, the caterpillar's body changes. This change happens because the insect is developing wings, legs, and other adult body parts. Although the outside looks still, important changes are taking place inside as it grows.
- ③ Finally, an adult butterfly comes out of the chrysalis. Its wet wings are folded at first, so it cannot fly right away. The butterfly pumps fluid into its wing veins and waits for its wings to dry. After that, it flies to find nectar and may lay eggs. The cycle begins again when those eggs hatch.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What happens first, next, and finally in the butterfly's life cycle? Use three short phrases.

2 Why does the caterpillar shed its old skin?

3 What changes inside the chrysalis, and why does this change happen?

4 Why can the adult butterfly not fly right away, and what does it do before flying?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write a three-sentence summary of the butterfly's life cycle. Use First, Next, and Finally, and include because or so to show a cause and effect.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline words that show time or sequence. Circle one cause and its effect in each paragraph, so you can use them in a summary. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What happens first, next, and finally in the butterfly's life cycle? Use three short phrases.	First, eggs hatch into caterpillars. Next, a caterpillar forms a chrysalis. Finally, an adult butterfly comes out.
2	Why does the caterpillar shed its old skin?	It sheds its old skin because its skin becomes too tight as it grows.
3	What changes inside the chrysalis, and why does this change happen?	The caterpillar's body changes because it is developing wings, legs, and other adult body parts.
4	Why can the adult butterfly not fly right away, and what does it do before flying?	Its wings are wet and folded, so it pumps fluid into its wing veins and waits for its wings to dry.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

First, an egg hatches into a caterpillar that eats and grows. Next, it forms a chrysalis because its body is changing into an adult. Finally, a butterfly dries its wings, flies for nectar, and can lay eggs.

Accept accurate summaries that keep the life-cycle stages in order and include a clear cause-and-effect relationship. Students may use different sequence words if the order is clear.