Key Concepts:
• Life cycles occur according to a predictable series of events.
• There are specific vocabulary words associated with individual stages of a life cycle.
• There are recognizable differences between science fiction and science fact.

Skills:
• Variable

Materials:
• Variable

Objectives
Use examples of animals’ life cycles to make the concept of chronology easier to understand. Learn vocabulary associated with different stages of life cycles.

Background
This lesson encourages students to compare human life cycles with insect life cycles. Vocabulary can include: infant, child, teen, adult, egg, larva, pupa, adult, grow, change, young, nymph, and metamorphosis.

Activities
1. **Comparing Life Cycles.**

Discuss the life cycles of many organisms with students, including humans. Include infant, child, teen and adult. Show them pictures of the same people as infants and adults, and ask them to explore how these people have changed, and why.

You could have students bring in two pictures of someone in their family (both pictures of the same person at different ages). Set up a viewing station with all pictures face-up, and have students work in small groups to try to match child to adult pictures.

2. **Insect Metamorphosis.**

Obtain sets of pictures of insects at all life stages, and have groups of students organize the sequence of development of the insects. Have students share their results. Practice vocabulary with the sequences—for examples: grow, change, young, nymph, egg, larva, pupa, adult, metamorphosis.

![Lacewing Life Cycle](image-url)