



Lesson Plan: How Animals Grow and Change

Grade Level: 3

Subject: Life Science

Duration: 45–60 minutes

Standards Alignment:

- **NGSS 3-LS1-1:** Develop models to describe that organisms have unique and diverse life cycles but all have in common birth, growth, reproduction, and death.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:



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- **Inherited trait:** A characteristic passed from parents to offspring.
- **Chrysalis:** The pupa stage of a butterfly.
- **Tadpole:** The larval stage of a frog.
- **Gills:** Organs that allow fish to breathe underwater.

Refer to the [Vocabulary Set 1](#) and [Vocabulary Set 2](#) for definitions and matching activities



(<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/vocabulary/vocabulary-science-grade-3-how-animals-grow-and-change-and-live-1.pdf>) (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/vocabulary/vocabulary-science-grade-3-how-animals-grow-and-change-and-live-2.pdf>).

Materials Needed

- Printed copies of the Study Guide (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/guide/study-guide-science-grade-3-how-animals-grow-and-change-and-live.pdf>).
- Vocabulary matching worksheet (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/vocabulary/vocabulary-science-grade-3-how-animals-grow-and-change-and-live-1.pdf>).
- Life cycle diagrams (butterfly, frog, chicken) (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-how-animals-grow-and-change-and-live-cycling-3.pdf>).



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- Show images or short videos of a butterfly emerging from a chrysalis and a frog developing from a tadpole.

2. Direct Instruction (10 minutes)

- Discuss the concept of a life cycle, highlighting the stages: birth, growth, reproduction, and death.



- Use the Study Guide to explain how different animals, like butterflies and frogs, go through unique life cycles (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/guide/study-guide-science-grade-3-how-animals-grow-and-change-and-live.pdf>).
- Introduce adaptations such as camouflage and mimicry, explaining how they help animals survive.

3. Guided Practice (15 minutes)

- Distribute the vocabulary matching worksheet and work through it as a class, reinforcing the key terms (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/vocabulary/vocabulary-science-grade-3-how-animals-grow-and-change-and-live-2.pdf>).
- Show life cycle diagrams of a butterfly and a frog, discussing each stage and the changes that occur.

4. Independent Practice (15 minutes)



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Differentiation Strategies

- **For advanced learners:** Introduce more complex life cycles, such as that of a chicken or a human, and have students compare and contrast them.
- **For learners needing support:** Provide pre-cut life cycle stages and offer one-on-one assistance during the sequencing activity.

Extension Activities



- **Research Project:** Assign students to research the life cycle of an animal of their choice and present their findings to the class.
- **Creative Writing:** Have students write a short story from the perspective of an animal going through its life cycle.



Additional Resources

- Worksheet PDF 1 (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-how-animals-grow-and-change-and-live-1.pdf>).
- Worksheet PDF 2 (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-how-animals-grow-and-change-and-live-2.pdf>).
- NewPathWorksheets: How Animals Grow and Change and Live



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