

Animals: Lifecycles and reproduction

eggs- these are formed once the gametes have been fertilised. After fertilisation females of the following living things will lay eggs: fish, reptiles birds, amphibians

embryo- an embryo is formed when a sperm and an egg join. An embryo develops into an unborn baby in the uterus during pregnancy.

gametes-Gametes are the male and female sex cells:

fertilisation – During sexual reproduction a sperm from the male joins with an egg from the female. This is called **fertilisation**.

larvae-the active immature form of an insect, especially one that differs greatly from the adult and forms the stage between egg and pupa, e.g. a caterpillar or grub. Compare with [nymph](#). An immature form of other animals that undergo some metamorphosis, e.g. a tadpole.

Lifecycle of a frog



Lifecycle of a butterfly



ova – these are female gametes– singular **ovum**

sperm – these are male gametes

lifecycle-A lifecycle is the different stages of life for all living things, including humans.

stages in a lifecycle-

There are normally four major events in the lifecycle of animals:

birth - growth - reproduction – death

Metamorphosis- Most amphibians go through **metamorphosis** during their lifetime. Metamorphosis is a **process some animals go through to become adults**. It is a series of physical changes. Metamorphosis is especially common in insects. Genes and chemicals called hormones control the process. Many insects go through four stages of metamorphosis: egg, larva, pupa, and adult. An insect hatches from an egg into a wormlike larva.

Reproduction means to have babies or offspring. To reproduce, animals need a male and a female. Together they can create offspring when they mate. This is called **sexual reproduction**.

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