

Vocabulary

life cycle the series of stages in the growth of a living thing, from fertilisation until death

animal a living organism that is able to move independently but cannot produce its own food

plant a living organism that uses sunlight to make its own food

flower the part of the plant that contains reproductive organs

fruit the swollen and fleshy area that develops at the bottom of a flower after fertilisation. It contains the seeds

germination the process in which a seed takes in water and its seed case breaks open to release the root

pollination the transfer of pollen between the male parts of one flower and the female parts of another flower

fertilisation the process of the male and female joining to create a new life

seed dispersal the process in which plants scatter their seeds in order to have the best chance of survival

puberty the stage in an animal's life cycle when it prepares to reproduce

metamorphosis the way in which an insect's body changes as it grows from an egg into an adult

photosynthesis the way green plants make their food from sunlight, carbon dioxide and water

Biology

Science Y5: Life Cycles

Key diagrams and knowledge

Animal life cycles

A life cycle is made up of a series of developmental changes that an organism goes through, as they are born, grow, develop to adulthood, reproduce, reach old age and die. The stages of the life cycle and length of that cycle vary, depending on the type of animal.

Mammals Mammals give birth to live young which look like smaller versions of the adult animal. Dogs, cows, elephants, mice, whales and humans are all mammals. **Amphibians** Amphibians spend part of their life cycle in water and part of their life cycle on land. Frogs, toads and salamanders are all amphibians.

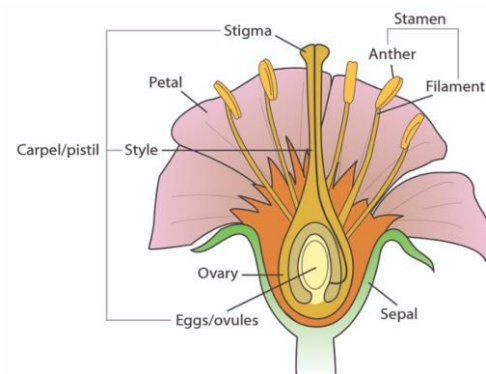
Insects The life cycles of insects vary, but most insects hatch from eggs. Bees, ants, butterflies, beetles and flies are kinds of insects.

Birds Birds lay eggs that have hard shells. These eggs hatch out after a period of incubation.

Plant life cycles

Sexual reproduction in flowering plants

The female part of a flower consists of the **carpels**, which is where the seeds are formed. It has three parts: the **stigma**, the **style**, and the **ovary**. The male parts of the flower are the **stamens**, which produce **pollen**. Each stamen has two parts: an **anther** and a **filament**. The **anther** contains the pollen and the **filament** supports the anther.



Scientists



Marianne North 1830 -1890

Dragonfly Life Cycle



Links to prior learning

Year 3 plants

Links to other subjects

Personal Development -
puberty

Art - Marianne North

History - journeys

Maths - plotting and
interpreting scatter graphs