

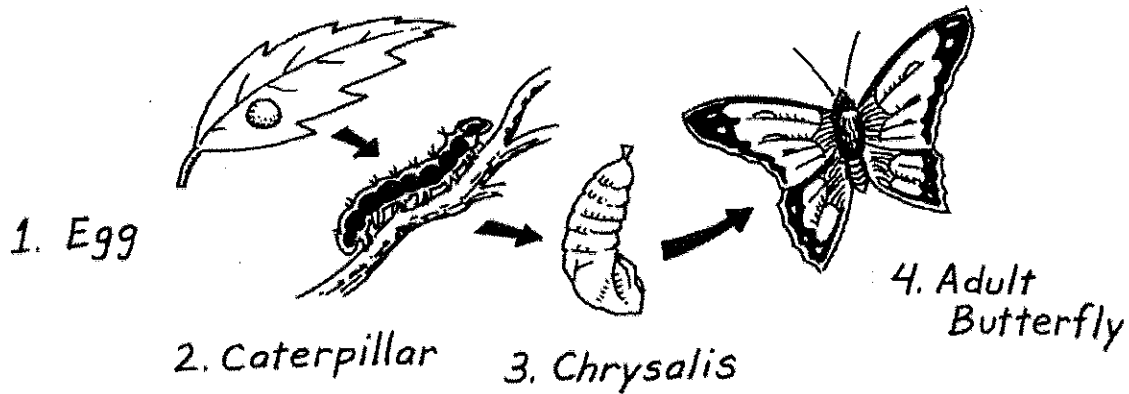
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Graphic Sources

- A **graphic source**, such as a picture, diagram, or chart, organizes information visually.
- Preview the graphic sources to help you predict what you will be reading about.

Directions Study the following diagram. Then answer the questions below.

The Butterfly's Life Cycle



1. What tells you the topic of this graphic source?

2. What is the second stage of a butterfly's life?

The second stage is _____

3. How does the diagram tell you the different stages in the life of a butterfly?

To show the different stages, the diagram uses _____

4. How does the diagram help you to understand the life cycle of the butterfly?

The diagram helps you picture _____

5. Where might you see a graphic source like this?

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Home Activity Your child answered questions using a graphic source. Find a nonfiction article that includes a diagram or illustrations. Together, examine the graphic source and make predictions about what the article will be about. Then read the article to check your predictions.

Vocabulary • Synonyms

Tues

- A **thesaurus** is a book that lists words, their **synonyms**, and their **antonyms**.
- **Synonyms** are different words that mean the same or almost the same thing, while **antonyms** are words that have the opposite meaning of each other.
- Sometimes authors write synonyms next to difficult words to help readers understand the word. To find synonyms, look for the words *or*, *such as*, and *like*, or a phrase set off by commas.

Directions Read the following passage about insects. Then answer the questions below. You may use a thesaurus.

<p>To some people, insects such as mosquitoes are simply pests. But many insects are useful. Honeybees, for example, make honey. They also pollinate plants by carrying pollen from one plant to another. This enables, or allows, the plant to grow and develop. Pollination is essential, or critical, for many things</p>	<p>we eat. Growers use honeybees in apple orchards, for example. Beekeepers raise colonies, or communities, of bees.</p> <p>Some insects eat garbage. Others specialize in or focus on eating harmful insects. Caterpillars eat lots of plants but don't usually do permanent damage. Butterflies eat very little.</p>
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1. What word in the passage is a synonym for *enables*? How do you know it is a synonym?

2. What suggests that *essential* and *critical* are synonyms?

3. The word *mosquitoes* follows the words *such as*. How do you know it is not a synonym for *insects*?

4. What is another word for *colonies*? What context clue helps you to identify the synonym?

5. Rewrite the last sentence to provide a synonym for the word *scarce*.

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Home Activity Your child identified and used synonyms to help him or her understand other words. Together, read an article about a scientific subject in a newspaper or magazine, noting any challenging vocabulary. Try to use synonyms and other context clues to clarify the meanings of these words.

Vocabulary

Reading Pkt.

Directions Choose the word from the box that best matches each definition. Write the word on the line.

- _____ 1. a slimy substance produced in the nose and throat to moisten and protect them
- _____ 2. free from germs
- _____ 3. gives ability, power, or means to; makes able
- _____ 4. to develop in a special way
- _____ 5. being important to the outcome of a situation

Check the Words You Know

- ___ **critical**
- ___ **enables**
- ___ **mucus**
- ___ **scarce**
- ___ **specialize**
- ___ **sterile**

Directions Circle the word or group of words that has the same or nearly the same meaning as the first word.

<i>Example: melody</i>	words	<u>tune</u>	ringing
6. scarce	plenty	many	rare
7. critical	important	useful	relaxed
8. sterile	dirty	germ-free	bacteria
9. enables	teaches	makes empty	allows
10. specialize	stretch	adapt	organize

Write a Description

On a separate sheet of paper, write a description of a grasshopper or another insect with which you are familiar. Your description should include as many details as possible. Use as many vocabulary words as you can.

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Home Activity Your child identified and used vocabulary words from *Exploding Ants*. Pretend each of you is a research scientist. Use the vocabulary words to discuss a new species of insect you have discovered together.