

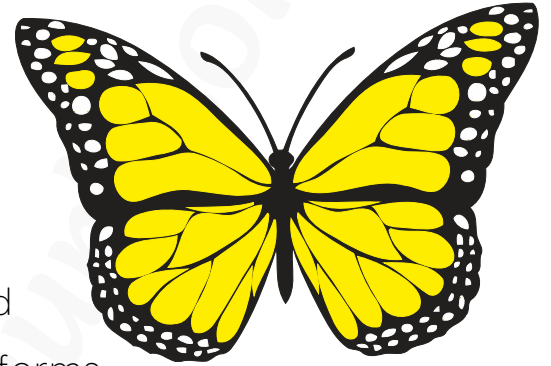


Reading comprehension for Grade 3 or 4

Don't Put All Your Eggs in One Basket.

The Life of a Butterfly

Butterflies are beautiful insects that are found all over the world. They start out as small, creamy white eggs that are laid on plants. When the eggs hatch, out comes a tiny larva, or caterpillar. The caterpillar eats and grows for a few weeks, shedding its skin several times as it grows bigger.



When the caterpillar is fully grown, it hangs from a leaf or twig and forms a hard, protective shell called a chrysalis. Inside the chrysalis, the caterpillar transforms into a butterfly. It takes about a week for the butterfly to fully develop inside the chrysalis.

Finally, the butterfly emerges from the chrysalis with its wings still wet and crumpled. It hangs upside down for a while to let its wings dry and harden. Once its wings are dry, the butterfly is ready to fly!

Butterflies have a very short lifespan, living only a few weeks to a couple of months. They spend most of their time flying from flower to flower, drinking nectar with their long, straw-like tongues. They also lay eggs on plants so that the cycle can start all over again.

Questions:

1. What do butterflies start out as?
2. What do caterpillars turn into?
3. How long does it take for a butterfly to fully develop inside a chrysalis?
4. What do butterflies do with their long, straw-like tongues?
5. How long do butterflies live?

The water cycle

The water cycle is the continuous movement of water from the Earth's surface to the atmosphere and back again.

Water evaporates from the Earth's surface, rising into the air as water vapor. When the water vapor cools and condenses, it forms clouds.



Clouds can move over long distances, carried by the wind. When the clouds become heavy and full enough, they release the water they are holding in the form of rain or snow. The water falls back to the Earth's surface, where it can either soak into the ground or flow into rivers and lakes.

Some of the water that falls to the Earth's surface flows into the oceans, where it can once again evaporate and start the cycle all over again. The water cycle is an important process that helps to keep the Earth's climate stable and provides us with the water we need to survive.

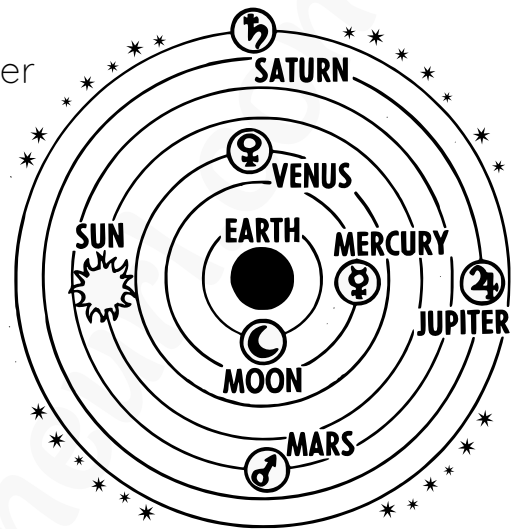
Questions:

1. What is the water cycle?
2. How does water enter the atmosphere?
3. What happens to water vapor when it cools and condenses?
4. Where does some of the water that falls to the Earth's surface go?
5. Why is the water cycle important?

The Solar System

Our solar system is made up of the Sun and everything that orbits around it. The Sun is the center of the solar system and is a star. It is much bigger and much hotter than any of the other objects in the solar system.

The eight planets in our solar system orbit around the Sun. They are, in order from the Sun: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. Each of these planets is different and has its own unique features.



There are also dwarf planets in the solar system, such as Pluto. These are smaller than the eight main planets and do not have as much gravity. There are also many small objects in the solar system, such as asteroids and comets.

The solar system is a very big place, and it takes a long time for the planets to orbit around the Sun. It takes Earth about 365 days to complete one orbit around the Sun, which is why we have a year.

Questions:

1. What is the solar system made up of?
2. What is the Sun?
3. How many planets are in the solar system?
4. What are some other objects in the solar system besides planets?
5. How long does it take for Earth to orbit around the Sun?

The Value of Friendship

Friendship is a special kind of relationship that involves caring, trust, and support. Friends are people who we enjoy spending time with and who make us feel good about ourselves.

Having friends is important for many reasons. Friends can help us when we are feeling sad or upset, and they can also share in our joy and celebrations. Friends can also help us learn and grow, by giving us new perspectives and ideas.

It's important to be a good friend too. This means being kind and respectful, listening to others, and being there for them when they need help. It's also important to be honest and to keep each other's secrets.

Friendship takes time and effort to develop, but it is worth it. Good friends are a valuable part of our lives and can bring us joy and happiness.



Questions:

1. What is friendship?
2. Why is having friends important?
3. How can friends help us learn and grow?
4. What does it mean to be a good friend?
5. Why is friendship worth the time and effort to develop?