



Butterflies and moths and their habitats

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- Butterflies and moths are **insects**
- They can be found in many different types of **habitats**:

- ❖ Grassland
- ❖ Woodland
- ❖ Gardens and parks in towns/cities
- ❖ Farmland

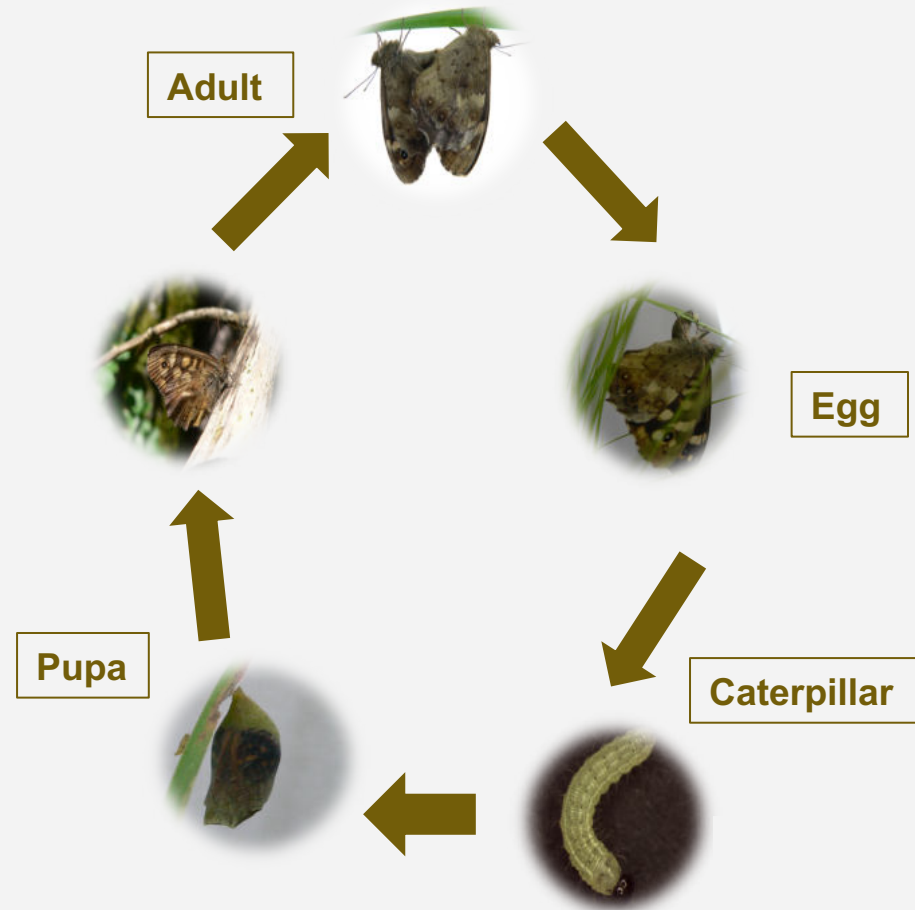
- A habitat is a natural environment or home for many different types of living things like plants and animals
- A suitable habitat is one that provides
 - ❖ The right types of food
 - ❖ The right amount of food



- Butterflies and moths have four stages in their **life cycle**:

- ❖ Egg
- ❖ Caterpillar
- ❖ Pupa
- ❖ Adult

- Changing shape through these four stages of the life cycle is called **metamorphosis**
- Most butterfly and moth caterpillars only eat plants. Some adult butterflies and moths eat nectar from plant flowers
- A suitable habitat needs to have food for both the caterpillar and adult life stages



- In some habitats, humans grow plants e.g. for food
- Sometimes moth and butterfly caterpillars eat these plants
- Humans think of these caterpillars as pests
- Humans have made chemicals to can get rid of these unwanted caterpillars
- These chemicals are called pesticides
- A pesticide specifically made to kill insect pests is called an insecticide



- Using pesticides is important in farmlands
- But pesticides can also kill caterpillars who don't eat the crops, but just live nearby to the pests
- These caterpillars play an important role in nature:
 - ❖ As food for other animals
 - ❖ And when they are adults, as pollinators of plants
- So we need to use pesticides carefully to try to protect these non-pest caterpillars from harm

