



Beautiful Butterflies



- 8 Have you ever wondered how a squirming, little
14 caterpillar becomes a big, beautiful butterfly?
- 24 Butterflies start life as very small eggs that are usually
36 laid on the leaves of a plant. Inside the egg, a tiny
45 caterpillar is growing and moving around. When the egg
53 hatches, the colourful caterpillar crawls out. It spends
63 lots of time munching happily on the leaf it was
65 born on.
- 74 When the caterpillar has finished growing, it forms itself
86 into a pupa which is like a little case. Inside the pupa,
94 the caterpillar is quickly changing and growing wings.
99 It is becoming a butterfly.
- 109 When it has fully changed, the butterfly will come out
121 of the pupa and rest for a while until it feels strong.
127 Then, it will learn to fly!



Quick Questions



1. **Find** and **copy two** words that describe the caterpillar in the first sentence.



2. What is the name of the little case that the caterpillar forms itself into? Tick **one**.

☐

puppy

☐

pupil

☐

pumpkin

☐

pupa



3. Why do you think that the butterfly needs to rest for a while?



What do you think the butterfly will do once it learns to fly?



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Answers



1. **Find** and **copy two** words that describe the caterpillar in the first sentence.
squirming; little.



2. What is the name of the little case that the caterpillar forms itself into? Tick **one**.

☐

puppy

☐

pupil

☐

pumpkin

☒

pupa



3. Why do you think that the butterfly needs to rest for a while?
Accept answers which discuss that the butterfly's transformation must have taken a lot of energy and it needs to recover its strength.



4. What do you think the butterfly will do once it learns to fly?
Accept any sensible prediction about what the butterfly will do next, such as: Look for a mate; drink nectar from flowers; look for a food source.