

Vocabulary



abdomen the rear body section of an insect

Insects have three body sections. They have a head. They have a middle part called a thorax. They have a rear part called the abdomen.

antenna a “feeler” on an insect’s head

Insects have two feelers. Feelers sense smells and touch.

cocoon the case that surrounds and protects a pupa

An insect larva makes a cocoon around itself. Then it is a pupa.

larva the young form of an animal that changes as it becomes an adult

The larva of an insect is a feeding stage. It eats and grows a lot. Then it surrounds itself with the cocoon.

metamorphosis change in shape during growth and development

Many kinds of insects have four stages of metamorphosis. They are the egg, larva, pupa, and adult.

pupa an insect in a non-feeding stage that is surrounded by a cocoon

The pupa appears quiet. But a lot of changes are taking place inside the cocoon. The insect is growing wings, legs, and antennae. It is turning into an adult insect.