What is a life cycle?

Simply, a life cycle shows stages of life.

For example, the human life cycle looks like this:

Do all animals have the same life cycle?

Not all animals go through the same changes throughout their life cycle, but most of the animals go through the so-called simple life cycle.

A simple cycle of life has three steps only:
• they are born (birth or broods)
• they are young
• they are adults

Chicken life cycle

A hen goes through a simple life cycle:

Egg

Chick

Hen
Practice Reading Tests - Year 2-3 - Life Cycle

1. a) What does a life cycle involve? (Tick one)
   - Stages of childhood
   - Stages of old age
   - Stages of life
   - Stages of youth

   b) What are the stages of a so-called simple life cycle? (Tick two)
   - They are born
   - They are old
   - They are young
   - They are babies
   - They are tall

2. Find and copy one word which describes people when they get older.

   ________________________________________________________________

3. Put ticks to show which statements are true and which are false. One has been done for you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>True</th>
<th>False</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A simple life cycle hasn’t got four stages.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An animal will go through a human life cycle.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A hen will go through a simple life cycle.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The human life cycle starts with an adult.</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
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**Metamorphosis**

Metamorphosis means that an animal goes through a major change in their life cycle. They look completely different when they are born, to how they look when they are adults. Most animals that undergo metamorphosis, are amphibians or insects.

![Metamorphosis diagram](image)

**Amphibians**

Amphibians go through more steps in their life cycle than a chicken. For example, a frog’s life cycle has 5 steps.

![Amphibian life cycle diagram](image)

**Insects**

Just as amphibians, insects go through more than 3 stages in their life cycle as well.

![Insect life cycle diagram](image)
4. Put these events in the order that they happened in the life cycle, numbering them from 1 to 5. One has been done for you.

The frog life cycle ends with the fully-grown frog.  
First, they are eggs, spawn.  
The will grow arms.  
They will grow into a tadpole.  
After, the tadpole will have legs.

5. Draw three lines to show how many stages there are in each life cycle.

more than three stages  
five stages  
three stages  
simple life cycle  
amphibians/insect’s life cycle  
a human’s life cycle

6. Choose the best word/words in these sentences and tick your choice.

a) They look completely

similar  
different  
tadpole  
life cycle  
when they are born, to how they look when they are adults.

b) Just as amphibians, insects go through more than 3 stages in their

human life  
born  
life cycle  
stages  
as well.

** END OF TEST **
1. a) What does a life cycle involve?
   - Stages of life
   - Stages of old age
   - Stages of life ✓
   - Stages of youth

   a) What does a life cycle involve?
   - they are born ✓
   - they are old
   - they are young ✓
   - they are babies
   - they are tall

2. Find and copy one word which describes people when they get older.
   Old age

3. Put ticks to show which statements are true and which are false.

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4. Put these events in the order that they happened in the life cycle.
   - The frog life cycle ends with the fully-grown frog.
   - First, they are eggs, spawn.
   - They they will grow arms and legs.
   - They will grow into a tadpole.
   - After, the tadpole will have legs.

5. Draw three lines to show how many stages there are in each life cycle.

6. a) They look completely similar
   different ✓
   tadpole ✓
   life cycle
   when they are born, to how they look when they are adults.

   b) Just as amphibians, insects go through more than 3 stages in their
   human life
   born
   life cycle ✓
   stages
   as well.