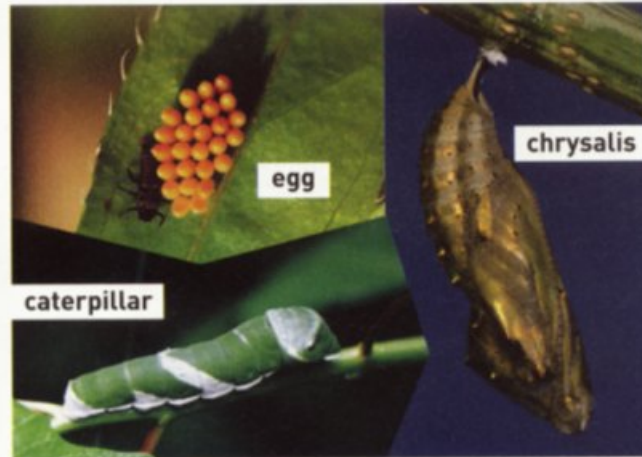


Birth, life and death

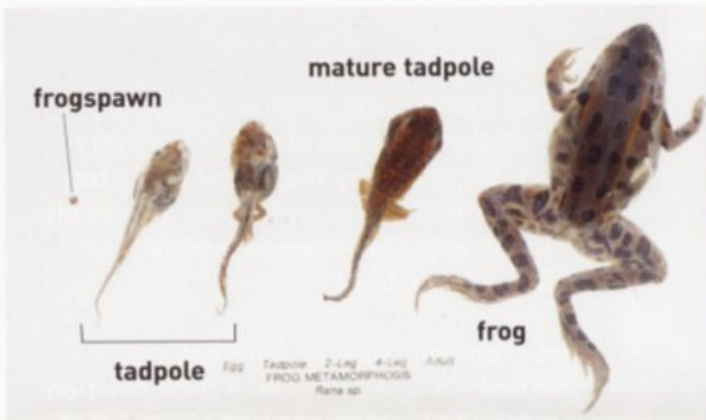
We can recognise baby birds and snakes when they come out of the eggs. However, some animals, like frogs and butterflies, change many times in their lives. The scientific word for this is 'metamorphosis'.



butterflies



STAGE 1: The female butterfly lays her eggs. **STAGE 2:** The caterpillars come out of the eggs. They eat a lot of food. They grow big and strong. Birds often eat these nice, juicy caterpillars! **STAGE 3:** The caterpillars become chrysalises. A chrysalis is like a dry egg. The caterpillar develops inside this protection. Birds don't like chrysalises! **STAGE 4:** The chrysalis opens. A butterfly comes out!
NOTE: Butterflies often live for only a few hours. They mate... the female lays eggs... and dies. The cycle begins again!



frogs



STAGE 1: The frog lays her eggs in a little water. These eggs are in a kind of jelly. This protects them against birds. There are hundreds and hundreds of eggs, but many of them die. **STAGE 2:** Young tadpoles come out of the eggs. They have heads and tails, but no legs. **STAGE 3:** Mature tadpoles develop back legs and then front legs. **STAGE 4:** The tail disappears. The tadpoles are now frogs. They hop away!

WORD FILE

- bite (v)** To use your teeth.
- cycle** The progression of birth, life and death.
- hop (v)** To jump in one direction.
- leech** An insect that sucks blood from humans or animals.
- mate (v)** To copulate.
- suck (v)** To pull liquid into your mouth.
- vampire bat** A type of bat that drinks blood.

recognize recognise

The ugh! factor

Leeches drink blood. They suck the blood from an animal or human. And they grow bigger and bigger... They can grow to 20 centimeters. **Ugh!**

Vampire bats like blood, too. They bite sleeping animals (remember all those horror movies?). Their front teeth are very sharp. And they use their tongues to drink the blood.

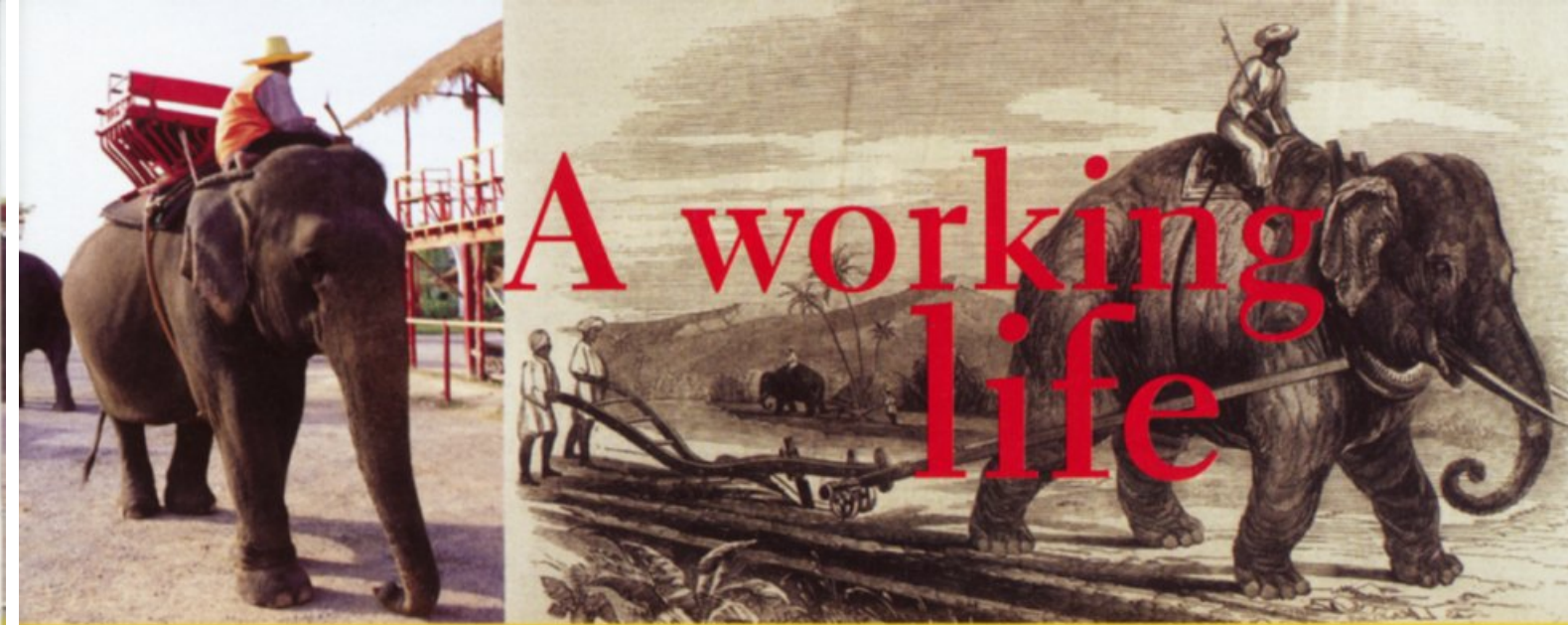
HELP!



Choose an animal. Find out about the different stages in its life.



A working life



Some animals are special. They work for humans. How many working animals do you know? Here are a few.

ELEPHANTS

They are very strong. They can push and pull things with their trunks. In India, for example, they move trees for people.

DONKEYS

Donkeys are strong, too. They have strong bodies - and strong ideas. They can carry things and people. But if they don't want to do something, they stop!

PIGEONS

They have good memories, so they remember where they live. They always return home. So people can take a pigeon to a new place, and put a message on its leg. The bird carries the message home.



Pet or worker? It's a dog's life!

A lot of people have a pet dog. See Pets' Corner on page 10. However, some dogs aren't pets: they work very hard.

THE STRONG DOG

Huskies are very strong. In the north of Canada, the Inuit use these dogs to pull their sledge on the snow. They live with people in the winter. They eat a lot of meat. In the summer, there is no snow, and the dogs are free. They don't work!

THE 'EXTRA EYES' DOG

Some dogs are very intelligent. They learn to look at the traffic and to guide blind people. With a good dog, a blind person can be independent.

THE DETECTIVE DOG

Dogs have good noses! Some dogs can recognise specific smells. So the police use them to find drugs at airports.

THE SPACE EXPLORER

Laika, a Russian dog, went into space in November, 1957. The first human, the Russian astronaut Yuri Gagarin, went into space in April, 1961.

FILM STARS

And then there are the film stars. See the Projects on page 15.



WORD FILE

- blind** Not able to see.
- guide (v)** To show somebody where to go.
- independent** Able to do things without help.
- sledge** A vehicle to travel over snow.
- smell (v)** To use your nose.
- recognize recognise
- sled** **sledge**

Find the working animals in your environment. What can they do?

