

Insect life cycles

The adult or imago

Adult insects come in a huge variety of shapes and colours. All insects have a total of six legs and their bodies are made up of the head, thorax and the abdomen. There are two antennae on the head and many insects can see well, through two large eyes.

Bees and wasps



Almost all insects go through three stages of development before becoming an adult.

These stages are called

Grasshoppers and crickets



egg or ova



caterpillar or larva

But bees, wasps, grasshoppers, crickets and bugs, are different. Their younger stages are called nymphs, which are smaller versions of the adults. In order to grow, the nymphs have to moult their old skin several times, until becoming adult.



chrysalis or pupa

Beetles



Flies



Moths and butterflies



Bugs