

Name _____

Circle of Life



In *Charlotte's Web*, E.B. White gently teaches readers about the cycle of life and death through the story of Wilbur the pig and his dear friend Charlotte the spider. From the moment Wilbur is born, he faces challenges. As a runt, he is almost not given a chance to live, but Fern, a kind girl, saves him. This early part of Wilbur's life shows that every life is valuable, no matter how small.

Wilbur grows up happily on the farm, but soon, he learns a hard truth—one day, the farmers plan to turn him into bacon. This realization fills him with fear, but Charlotte, a wise and caring spider, promises to help. She weaves words into her web, making people see Wilbur as special. Because of Charlotte's efforts, Wilbur is saved, but the cycle of life does not stop.

As Wilbur's life is spared, Charlotte's life begins to fade. Spinning the webs to save Wilbur took all of her strength. She becomes weak and, knowing she won't live much longer, she asks Wilbur to take care of her egg sac. Wilbur, heartbroken but determined, protects her eggs, showing how much he has grown. Charlotte passes away quietly, but her babies hatch in the spring, continuing the cycle of life.

Through Charlotte's life and death, Wilbur learns an important lesson: while death is a part of life, love and kindness never truly disappear. Charlotte's children stay with Wilbur, reminding him of their mother's wisdom and care. Though he misses her, he realizes that her friendship and love will always be with him.

The novel teaches readers that loss is a natural part of life, but memories and love remain. Just like Wilbur carries Charlotte's legacy, we, too, carry the lessons and love of those who are no longer with us.