

Name _____



The Life Cycle of a Housefly

Have you ever wondered how a tiny housefly grows from an egg into the buzzing insect we see around us? The life cycle of a housefly is fascinating and happens very quickly. Let's explore the different stages of a housefly's life!

The life cycle of a housefly has four stages: egg, larva, pupa, and adult. It all begins when a female housefly lays her eggs in a

warm, moist place, such as garbage or manure. Each female can lay up to 500 eggs in her lifetime! The eggs are tiny, white, and shaped like small grains of rice.

After just one day, the eggs hatch into larvae, which are also known as maggots. Maggots are small, white, worm-like creatures that spend their time eating and growing. They feed on the decaying organic matter where the eggs were laid, and this stage lasts for about 3 to 5 days.

Next, the maggots transform into pupae. During this stage, the maggots form a hard, brown shell around themselves. Inside the shell, they undergo an amazing transformation called metamorphosis. This stage lasts about 3 to 6 days, depending on the temperature.

Finally, the adult housefly emerges from the pupa. At first, the fly's body is soft and pale, but it quickly hardens and darkens. Adult houseflies live for about 2 to 4 weeks, and during this time, they focus on eating and reproducing to start the cycle all over again.

Houseflies are small but mighty in their ability to reproduce and adapt. Their short life cycle and ability to lay so many eggs make them one of the most common insects on Earth. Next time you see a housefly, you'll know the amazing process it went through to reach adulthood!