

Every animal's life goes through the same cycle: reproduction, growth, maturity, reproduction, and, finally, death.



## Key vocabulary

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### **organism**

A living plant or animal.

### **fertilize**

To begin reproduction in a plant by causing pollen to come into contact with the reproductive part of the plant.

### **metamorphosis**

Any complete or great change in appearance, form, or character.

### **reproduce**

When animals reproduce, they breed and produce offspring.

### **offspring**

An animal's or a human's young.

## Related articles

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### Animal Organ Systems

There is a lot to do inside a body, and animals' organ systems take care of all of it.



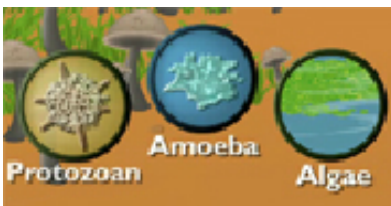
### Heredity

Ever wondered how you ended up with your eye color? The answer is all about heredity.



### Animal Adaptations

Just like plants, animals have to adapt to survive in their environments. And some of those adaptations, like zebra and tiger stripes, are pretty cool, too.



### The Kingdoms of Life

Kingdoms are one of the ways scientists keep all the billions of living things in the world straight. Do you know all the kingdoms?



### Animal Cells

Just like plant cells, animal cells are workaholics. They do all kinds of jobs in the body to keep things running smoothly.