

# MEET THE Painted Lady Butterfly

Also known as the cosmopolitan butterfly.

Found across the globe, the painted lady offers an exciting educational experience for young students.



## EGG

- Light green color
- Spherical shape
- Laid singly on a plant
- Temperature affects speed of development



## LARVA

- Undergoes 5 molts
- Grows approximately 1 1/4 inches long
- Changes color as it grows
- Forms bristles
- Produces a silk button to suspend from
- Suspends head down from prolegs in a "J" shape



## CHRYSALIS

- Brownish with gold flecks
- Soft for first few days
- Wiggles as a defense mechanism
- Adults emerge in 7 to 10 days



## ADULT

- Reach productive maturity in 5 to 7 days
- Wing span is approximately 2 1/2 inches
- Female can lay up to 500 eggs in her lifetime
- Adults live up to 10 to 14 days
- Migrations consist of several generations of offspring

The Painted Lady butterfly's value to the ecosystem:



host



pollinator



food source



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