



# He Looks Nothing Like Mom!

## Introduction

Although many babies look like their parents, some youngsters look nothing at all like their parents! These organisms go through a process called metamorphosis. Some animals, such as frogs and butterflies, change form completely. Others, such as dragonflies, start looking a little like their parents and change as they grow.

## Materials Needed

- ◆ Construction Paper
- ◆ Paper towel roll
- ◆ 2 sets of Velcro dots
- ◆ Glue
- ◆ Markers or crayons

## Key Concepts

- ◆ Offspring resemble parents.
- ◆ Some characteristics of organisms are inherited while others result from interactions.

For standards correlation please see our website.

## Procedure

1. Cover a paper towel roll with construction paper. Draw antennas and eyes on one end of the roll.
2. From another piece of construction paper, cut out butterfly wings. Glue the center of the wings on to the paper towel roll. Decorate the wings on both sides.
3. Attach soft Velcro dots to the butterfly body between the two wings.
4. Roll the wings closed and attach two more Velcro dots to the place where the wings touch the other velcro dots.
5. Roll and unroll the wings to watch the metamorphosis.

## Nature Connections

- ◆ Ask children to watch for caterpillars and pupas as they work in the garden or spend time outdoors. Discuss the different characteristics of caterpillars that the children find. Are they smooth or fuzzy?
- ◆ Beetle and butterfly metamorphosis have many similarities and differences. Ask older students to create a chart comparing the similarities between the adults and babies of these two species.

## Additional Resources

**Some great websites to visit and learn more about metamorphosis:**

◆ **Butterfly School: Metamorphosis**  
<http://www.butterflyschool.org/new/meta.html>

◆ **American Museum of Natural History**  
<http://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/butterflies/metamorphosis.html>

◆ **neoK-12: Metamorphosis Videos**  
<http://www.neok12.com/Metamorphosis.htm>

◆ **The Butterfly Site**  
<http://www.thebutterflysite.com/life-cycle.shtml>

