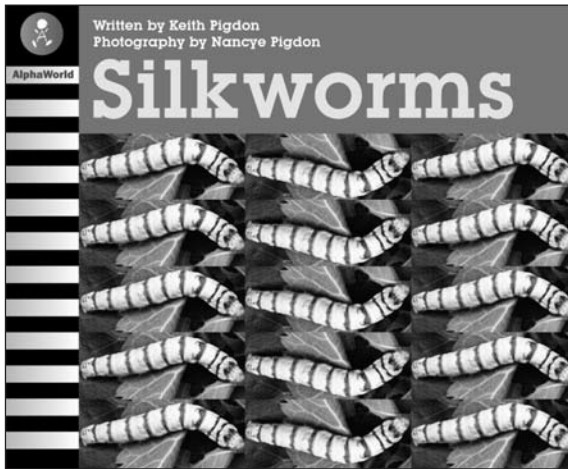


Silkworms



Topic: Science/Animal Kingdom/Time

Curriculum link: Natural Science

Text type: Explanation

Reading level: 17

Word count: 328

Vocabulary: caterpillar, chrysalis, cocoon, glands, hatch, mating, moth, moult, mulberry tree, silkworm

Possible literacy focus:

- Understanding the text at the three levels: literal, interpretive and inferential.
- Interpreting information from a diagram.
- Understanding new words: chrysalis, cocoon, moulting, mulberry leaves.

Follow-up activities

Understanding text structure – Explanation

Explore the structure of an explanation with the children. This type of text usually presents a general statement about the topic followed by the explanations of how each part of the life cycle occurs. A diagram on pages 18–19 also shows the life cycle. Look at the contents page and explain to the children how this helps us to locate the information we need. Point out the headings on each page and why we need them. Explore the glossary and its use.

Retelling the life cycle

Ask the children to turn to pages 18–19 in *Silkworms*. This is a diagram of the life cycle of a silkworm, based on the seasons. Have the children work in pairs and retell the story of the life cycle. Ask the children to use the pictures in the diagram as the prompt and tell the story in their own words. Several children could then retell the story to the group.

Comparing life cycles

Discuss with the children what they know about the butterfly's life cycle. Ask them to compare the life cycle of a silkworm with that of the butterfly.

What is the same about these life cycles?

What is different?

Write this information on a chart to be displayed in the classroom. The children could also draw diagrams of these life cycles and display these with the chart.

Life cycle model

You will need:

paper, pencils, felt pens, icy-pole sticks, straws, tissue paper, crepe paper, material, cellophane, coloured paper, thick piece of paper or cardboard for the base, string, scissors, glue, sticky tape.

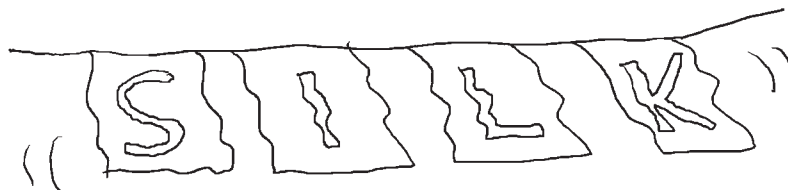
1. Work with a partner to make a model of the life cycle of a silkworm.
2. Use a thick piece of cardboard for the base.
3. Write some facts about the life cycle on a card.
4. Display this with your model.
5. Share your work with the class.

Design something to make from silk

You will need:

paper, pencil, coloured pencils

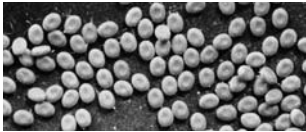
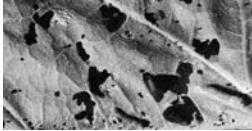


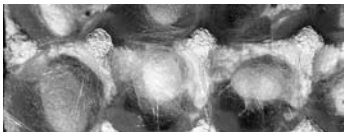


1. Imagine that you are a designer and you have been given some wonderful material called silk.
2. Think about what you could make with the silk.
3. Draw a picture of your design.
4. Write a short piece about your design.
5. Display your design in the classroom.



Name _____

Life cycle of a silkworm

Write about these pictures of the life cycle.

<p>Eggs</p> 	<hr/> <hr/>
<p>Hatching and feeding</p> 	<hr/> <hr/>
<p>Growing</p> 	<hr/> <hr/>
<p>Making silk</p> 	<hr/> <hr/>
<p>Inside the cocoon</p> 	<hr/> <hr/>
<p>Out of the cocoon</p> 	<hr/> <hr/>
<p>Mating and laying eggs</p> 	<hr/> <hr/>

Name _____

Quiz cards

Work with a partner. Cut out the quiz cards. Place them face down on a table. Turn over two at a time and try to find a matched pair. The person with the most pairs wins.

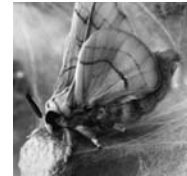
eggs



silkworm caterpillar



silkworm moth



mulberry leaves



silk



cocoon



mating

