Life Cycle
4th grade

Overview
Students are introduced to the life cycle of a butterfly, and then work in small groups to arrange different organisms into their specific life cycle (yucca, toad, quail). Students then start a long-term experiment using meal “worms” to track the animals’ life cycles over several weeks.

Vocabulary
- **Life cycle** – the series of changes in the life of an organism, including reproduction.
- **Larva** - the active immature form of an insect, especially one that differs greatly from the adult and forms the stage between egg and pupa, e.g., a caterpillar or grub.
- **Pupa** – an insect in its inactive immature form between larva and adult, e.g., a chrysalis.

NM Science Standards Addressed
1-1-1-3 Conduct multiple trials to test a prediction, draw logical conclusions, and construct and interpret graphs from measurements.
1-1-2-1 Communicate ideas and present findings about scientific investigations that are open to critique from others.
2-2-2-1 Know that in any particular environment some kinds of plants and animals survive well, some survive less well, and others cannot survive at all.
3-1-1-4 Know that both men and women of all races and social backgrounds choose science as a career.

CCSS Language Arts Standards Addressed
SL.4.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 4 topics and texts, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly.
SL.4.1.B Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions and carry out assigned roles.
SL.4.1.C Pose and respond to specific questions to clarify or follow up on information, and make comments that contribute to the discussion and link to the remarks of others.
SL.4.1.D Review the key ideas expressed and explain their own ideas and understanding in light of the discussion.