Life Cycle
5th 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 Use graphic representations (e.g., charts, graphs, tables, labeled diagrams) to present data and produce explanations for investigations.
1-1-1-4 Describe how credible scientific investigations use reproducible elements including single variables, controls, and appropriate sample sizes to produce valid scientific results.
1-1-1-5 Communicate the steps and results of a scientific investigation.
2-2-1-3 Know that changes in the environment can have different effects on different organisms (e.g., some organisms move, some survive, some reproduce, some die).

CCSS Language Arts Standards Addressed
SL.5.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 5 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
SL.5.1.B Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions and carry out assigned roles.
SL.5.1.C Pose and respond to specific questions by making comments that contribute to the discussion and elaborate on the remarks of others.