

# LEARN AT CHESTER ZOO

## INCOMPLETE METAMORPHOSIS INSECT LIFE CYCLE



EGG



ADULT

After the last moulting (shedding of the skin) a nymph becomes an adult. This can be called an imago. Adults can sometimes fly. Adult females lay eggs.

### EXTRA INFORMATION

An insect that undergoes incomplete metamorphosis is a hemimetabolous insect.

The term 'naiad' is used to describe the aquatic nymph of certain species e.g. dragonflies and mayflies.



NYMPH

Insect hatches from an egg in the form of a nymph, which looks like a small adult.

Some people call these nymphs larvae.

Nymphs cannot fly and are wingless. Their diet and environment may be the same as the adult or very different

*Generally, nymphs shed their skin a certain number of times because their exoskeleton (outer skin) becomes too tight and they must replace it. The insect finally becomes the size of an adult.*

### EXAMPLES

Termites, lice, dragonflies, aphids, grasshoppers and crickets.