

Name: _____

Metamorphosis Station

Scientific Question: How long does it take for a mealworm larva to transform into a pupa?

Passage Connection: Practices the sequential stages of the life cycle described in *A Growing Life*, specifically from larva to pupa to beetle.

Materials Needed:

One large, clear plastic container (the class "farm")

Oatmeal or bran

Sliced carrots (for water source)

Mealworms

"My Life as a Mealworm" journal

Procedure:

Establish the Farm: Setup the large container with oatmeal and carrots. Add a large number of mealworms.

Daily Check: Every morning, designated student "Metamorphosis Managers" will check the farm.

Searching: They are looking specifically for mealworms that are not wiggling and have changed shape—they are looking for pupae.

Isolation: When a pupa is found, move it to a separate small container.

Journaling: Have the managers record the date the pupa was found in their journal. The journal should have a timeline: "Today, our larva changed to a pupa!"

Second Hunt: Also look for Darkling Beetles. If a beetle is found, record that date too.

Graphing (Extension): At the end of the month, create a class bar graph showing how many pupae and beetles were "born" each week.

