

### Essential information

**Age range:**

Key Stage 1 and 2

**Group size:**

full class dependent on the leader

**Time needed:**

Approximately 20 minutes for producing life cycle

**Curriculum links:**

Science Unit 5B Life Cycles, 4B Habitats, 2B Plants and Animals in the Local Environment and 2C Variation. Also can support literacy, key skills and thinking skills.

**Setting:**

Classroom

**Contact us:**

For enquiries regarding the activity sheets, please contact Emily Jones on:  
emily@ptes.org  
020 7498 4533  
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For enquiries regarding stag beetle biology and ecology, please contact Deborah Harvey on:  
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## Stag beetle life cycle workshop leaders notes

### Background to activity

In this workshop children will learn about the various life cycles that occur in the natural world. They will then be asked to produce a life cycle diagram of a stag beetle.

### Materials needed

- Printouts of exercise downloadable from the free resources section of the website.
- Scissors and glue or coloured pencils

### Running the activity

Give each child a blank diagram sheet and a sheet printed with images, arrows and labels. Ask them to cut out each image, label and arrow from the second sheet. Then ask the children to place the pictures in the correct circles on the diagram sheet, then connect the circles with the arrows in the correct order and finally label each life cycle stage. Once this has been checked they can glue the pictures etc in the correct places.

### Extension activities

- They could research how long each stage of the life cycle takes and write it on the diagram
- To make the exercise more difficult, ask the children to draw their own life cycle diagram
- How many other life cycle examples can they think of
- Can they draw the life cycle of a frog
- Perhaps they could build a log pile in the school grounds and monitor it for invertebrate activity