

# The Cautious Caterpillar

It was springtime in the garden.

Cody the Caterpillar hatched from her egg and crawled onto a big green leaf.

She smiled happily.

“I love being a caterpillar!” she said and began to eat her tasty leaf.



Just then, a ladybird flew on over.

“You’re very lucky!” said the ladybird. “When you become a butterfly, you will have wings, like me!”



“Flying looks very tiring,” said Cody. “I wish I could stay as a caterpillar forever!”

“Don’t worry,” said the ladybird, “having wings is great. You can always stop for a rest!”

Cody smiled but didn’t feel sure. “Maybe one day,” she said.

She carried on eating and the ladybird flew away.

The next day, a bee buzzed on over.

“You’re very lucky!” said the bee. “When you become a butterfly, you will sip nectar, like me!”

“I don’t think I will like nectar,” said Cody. “I wish I could stay as a caterpillar forever!”

“Don’t worry,” said the bee, “drinking nectar is great. It is ever so yummy!”



Cody smiled but didn't feel sure. "Maybe one day," she said.

She carried on eating and the bee buzzed away.

A few days later, a grasshopper jumped on over.

"You're very lucky!" said the grasshopper. "When you become a butterfly, you will have six legs, like me!"

"But I like having sixteen legs," said Cody. "I wish I could stay as a caterpillar forever!"



"Don't worry," said the grasshopper, "having six legs is great. That's plenty for landing on the ground!"

Cody smiled but didn't feel sure. "Maybe one day," she said.

She carried on eating and the grasshopper jumped away.

The next day, Cody was full. She thought about everything her friends had told her and decided to be brave.

"Maybe today!" she said, as she changed herself into a chrysalis.

She stayed like that for many days, until she was finally ready to leave her chrysalis...

...and become a butterfly!



Cody explored the garden, feeling happy and proud of her new wings.

"Having wings **is** great!" she said, as she flew past the ladybird.

"This **is** yummy!" she said to the bee, as they sipped nectar together.

"Six legs **is** plenty!" said Cody, as she landed next to the grasshopper.

That evening, she came across a caterpillar eating a tasty green leaf.

"You're very lucky!" said Cody. "When you have finished eating, you will become a butterfly, like me!"

The caterpillar smiled but didn't look sure.

"I wish I could stay as a caterpillar forever!" he said.

"Don't worry," said Cody. "I loved being a caterpillar too, but trust me, being a butterfly is great!"



# Questions

1. What time of year was it in the garden? Tick one.

- autumn  
 spring  
 summer

2. How many legs does Cody say she likes having at the beginning of the story?

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3. List three adjectives used in the story to describe the leaf.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Draw a line to match each word to its meaning

nectar

to come out of an egg

chrysalis

a sugary liquid found in flowers

hatched

the hard case a caterpillar changes itself into before it turns into a butterfly

5. Why do you think Cody wanted to stay as a caterpillar forever?

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6. How do Cody's feelings change by the end of the story?  
 Why do you think she has a change of heart?

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# Answers

1. What time of year was it in the garden? Tick one.

- autumn  
 **spring**  
 summer

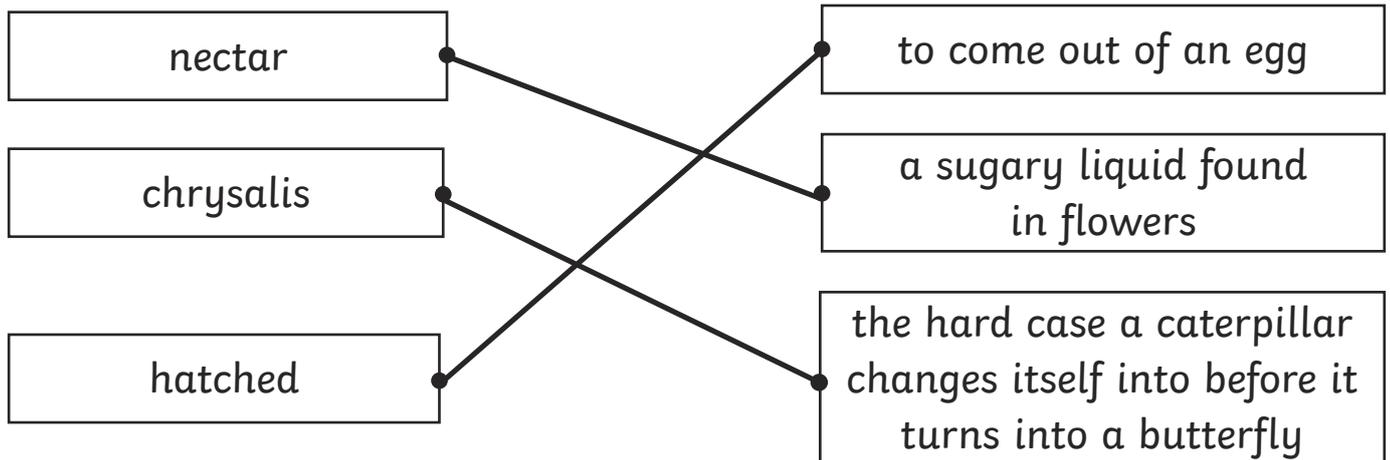
2. How many legs does Cody say she likes having at the beginning of the story?

**Cody says she likes having 16 legs.**

3. List three adjectives used in the story to describe the leaf.

**Big, green and tasty.**

4. Draw a line to match each word to its meaning



5. Why do you think Cody wanted to stay as a caterpillar forever?

**Because she was nervous about changing and wasn't sure if she would like being a butterfly.**

6. How do Cody's feelings change by the end of the story?

Why do you think she has a change of heart?

**Various answers related to Cody being brave or more confident and realising that being a butterfly is also great.**