

Bird life cycle challenge

Cut out each statement and place around the room. Challenge children to view them all, sketch an image for each, and create a life cycle that references each statement.

Parents often continue feeding their young for several days after they have fledged, while their wing feathers and muscles develop further.

When it is ready to fly from the nest the bird is called a fledgling.

The hatchling is dependent on its parents for shelter, food and hygiene (nestling).

The baby bird (chick) hatches out using its egg tooth (a structure on the beak which drops off a few days later).

The parent birds usually take it in turn to sit on the eggs to protect them and keep them warm (incubation).

Fertilisation takes place before the egg is laid when a male and female bird come together.

The embryo develops inside the egg which the mother lays in a nest.

Once it is fully grown, an adult bird is ready to mate.