**List #3 - Animal Life Cycles, Heredity, and Environments**

Vocabulary: You will have to match the definition with the correct vocabulary word on a quiz. Please study these terms. You will also use them for your vocabulary contract. (Don’t forget to look on the back!)

1. **life stages** – the steps in an organism’s life cycle
2. **egg** – a structure that protects and feeds young of certain kinds of animals
3. **larva**- the stage in some insects’ life cycles which comes after hatching
4. **pupa**- the stage of some insects’ life cycles before becoming an adult
5. **metamorphosis**- a process by which an organism’s body changes form
6. **heredity**- the passing of traits from parents to young
7. **offspring**- an organism’s young
8. **trait**- a characteristic or feature of a living thing
9. **inherited trait**- a characteristic that comes from parents
10. **learned trait**- something you are taught or learn with experience
11. **instinct** – an inherited behavior; things animals are born knowing how to do
12. **reflex** – an automatic reaction your body has
13. **desert** - an environment that has a dry climate and gets very little rain
14. **wetland** - an environment where water covers the soil for most of
the year
15. **tropical rain forest** – an environment that is hot, damp, and has many trees
16. **temperate forest** – an environment that has different weather during different seasons and has lots of trees
17. **taiga** – an environment with a cold climate that is filled with coniferous trees
18. **tundra** – an environment that is extremely cold, has very few trees, and can be found near the poles
19. **grassland** – an environment made up of mostly grass, with few scattered trees