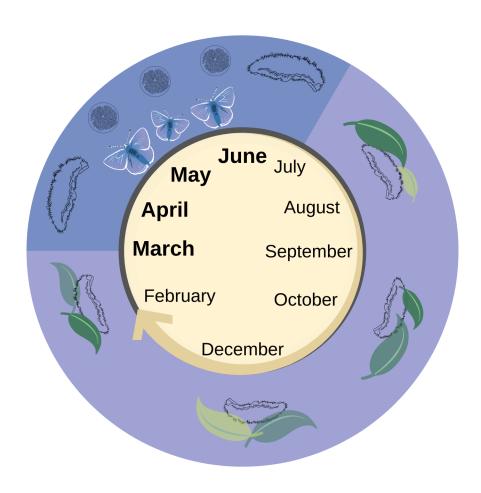
VARIATIONS of the MISSION BLUE BUTTERFLY LIFE CYCLE

The Mission Blue has a unique lifecycle, which takes 12 months from egg to adult to complete. We put together multiple graphics of its lifecycle to make it easy for all ages to understand and appreciate. The first four designs were organized by Chloe Van Loon, and graphics by Kimmy Tran.



IFECYCLE OF THE MISSION BLUE BUTTERFLY



WHAT STAGE IS THE BUTTERFLY IN NOW?



Use this diagram to find its current life stage.

April through June:

pupation stage has ended. The adults metamorphosing in a cocoon, the butterflies will emerge, and live Pupation has ended, after between 3-10 days.

June

April

When adults emerge, they waste no time. Adults mate, then the females deposit eggs one at a time on the Lupine plant. As adults, the butterflies rely on nectar from many different wildflowers, not just the Lupine's flowers.

Eggs hatch into larvae within 6-10 days



diapause (hibernation) and resume March to April: As a larvae, or feeding on the Lupine's leaves.

September

March

October

February

December

bigger size. The larvae go through As the larvae feast, they outgrow caterpillar, Mission blues feast on their own skin, requiring multiple molts to accommodate for their the leaves of the lupine plants. five of these molts prior to

While hibernating, the larvae are fragile, and can be crushed! So, watch your step, and stay on trails!

pupation.







Conservancy Archives via KQEDQuest Flickr account Diagram inspired from Golden Gate National Parks

LIFECYCLE OF THE MISSION BLUE BUTTERFLY

USE THIS DIAGRAM TO FIND ITS CURRENT LIFE STAGE.



Larvae in Diapause

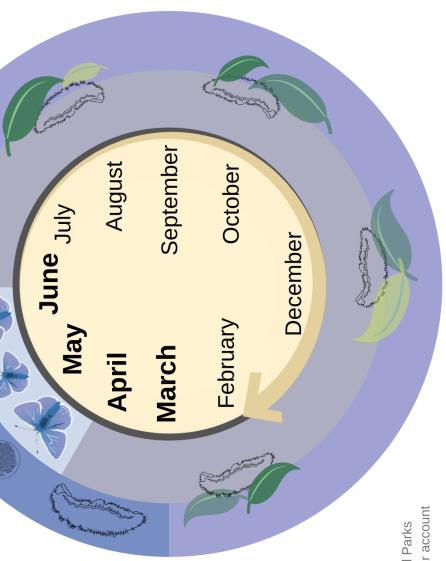
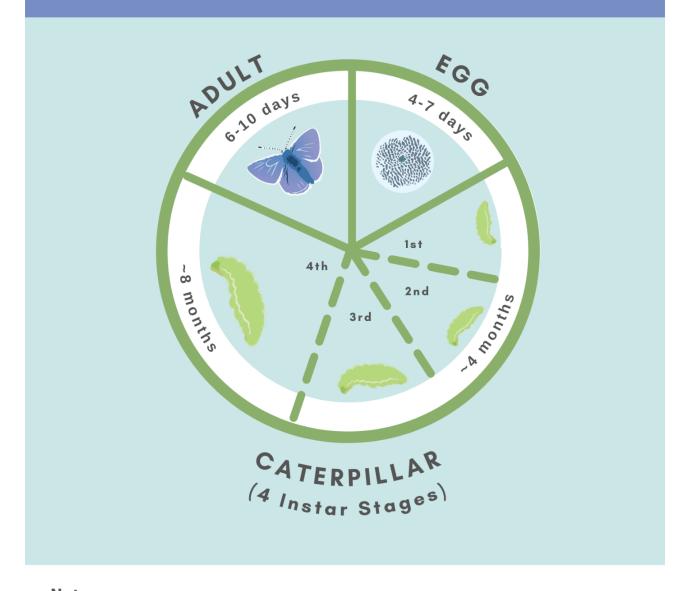


Diagram inspired from Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy Archives via KQEDQuest Flickr account

LIFE CYCLE OF THE

MISSION BLUE BUTTERFLY



Notes:

