Benchmarks:
SLC 5: A.) Students will identify and explain events and cycles (i.e., phases of the moon, daily and seasonal orientation of the sun, life cycles of plants and animals, motion of gears etc.) and the next likely occurrences. B.) Students will create charts and graphs to show patterns over time and predict the next likely occurrences.

Objectives:
To help students understand what cycles are and why they are important.

Materials:
• Pictures from various life cycles (mealworm, butterfly, chicken)
• Sheet of paper with pictures of different eggs and parents of the eggs

Initial Demonstration:
Break the class up into groups and pass out pictures of cycles and arrows to each group. Have each group sort or put in order the pictures, using the arrows if possible. Each group shares what they did and why. Discuss or have other students discuss the cycle if some groups did not have it in a circle. Review that this is what we call a life cycle.

Target Observations:
• The pictures can be sorted into groups
• The pictures can be arranged as a life cycle
  o The arrows can be used to show the direction the cycle goes

Target Model:
- A life cycle is a way of arranging related pictures.

Procedure:
Ask the students why knowing life cycles would be important? Give each group a sheet of pictures of eggs and possible parents. Have the groups try and match the eggs to their parents. What would happen if you thought you had an egg of a chicken, but really it was the egg for a snake? What type of food would you now need? What type of container would you need to use?

Target Observations:
• Knowing life cycles is important because they help us understand needs at different times in the cycle, and you can predict what kind of creature/plant you will get if you only know the egg or seed, etc.
• If you didn’t know any life cycles (i.e. which egg belongs to which parent), you could have some trouble caring for the animal

Target Model:
-A life cycle is a way of arranging related pictures.
-Life cycles help us understand the needs of animals.