Stage one: An egg is laid on a host plant by an adult female butterfly.

Stage two: The caterpillar or larva that hatches from the egg feeds on the leaves of the host plant. It grows continually and sheds its skin about six times.

Stage three: A chrysalis or pupa is formed when the caterpillar has shed its skin for the last time. During this time, the caterpillar does not eat or move.

Stage four: An adult butterfly emerges from the chrysalis.