

## Oil Beetle Life Cycle

Learn the stages in an oil beetle life cycle with this fun exercise. Cut out the coloured boxes, jumble them up and then lay them out on the table in the right order.

(for younger children—the life cycle boxes should fall in

The larvae moult 3 times and pupate inside the bee's nest and stay there until the following year.



Adult oil beetles emerge and look for a mate.

An adult
female oil beetle burrows
in a sandy area close to a
colony of solitary bees.





The female lays up to

1000 eggs which take

2-3 weeks to develop.

the order of the colours of the rainbow)

off and eat the bee's eggs. Then they change into a grub-like stage.

The larvae drop



A bee visiting the flower becomes covered in larvae. The larvae are carried back to the bee's nest.



the larvae hatch out into a louselike stage. The larvae burrow out and climb up a flower stem.



