Life Cycle of the Flea

After hatching, the larva can take a week to several months to pass through its three larval stages.

1. Eggs are laid loosely on the host skin and soon drop off onto the ground.
2. Eggs hatch into larvae.
3. Larvae change to pupae.
4. Adults emerge from pupae.
5. Generally, a flea population consists of 50% eggs, 35% larvae, 10% pupae and 5% adults. This means that 95% of the flea population actually lives away from the host.

Once mature, the larva forms a cocoon. Inside this cocoon it becomes a pupa and after 5 to 14 days the pupa enters a pre-adult stage that can last for a year or more.

Life cycle adapted from CDC
http://www.dpd.cdc.gov/dpx