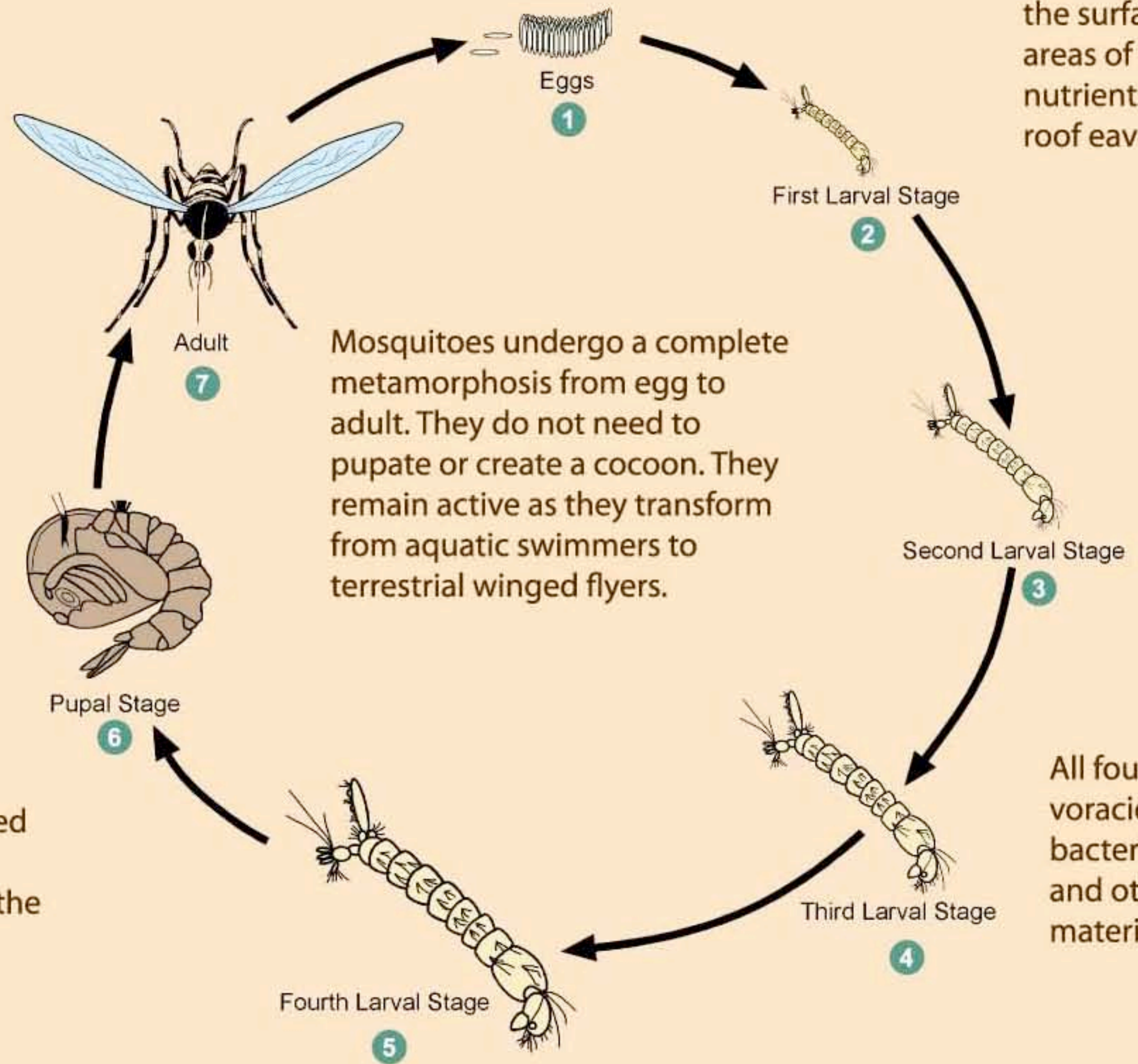


Life Cycle of the Mosquito

After resting to dry its wings, the adult flies off. A female usually mates only once, carrying the male's sperm inside her body to fertilize eggs as she lays them.

Females lay 100 to 250 eggs individually or in clusters on the surface of small confined areas of water rich in organic nutrients, such as birdbaths, roof eaves and tires.



Mosquitoes undergo a complete metamorphosis from egg to adult. They do not need to pupate or create a cocoon. They remain active as they transform from aquatic swimmers to terrestrial winged flyers.

In about 10 days, the larva changes to a comma-shaped pupa. Two days later, after developing adult features, the pupa emerges as an adult mosquito.

All four larval stages are voracious eaters, devouring bacteria, fungal spores, algae and other microscopic organic material in the water.