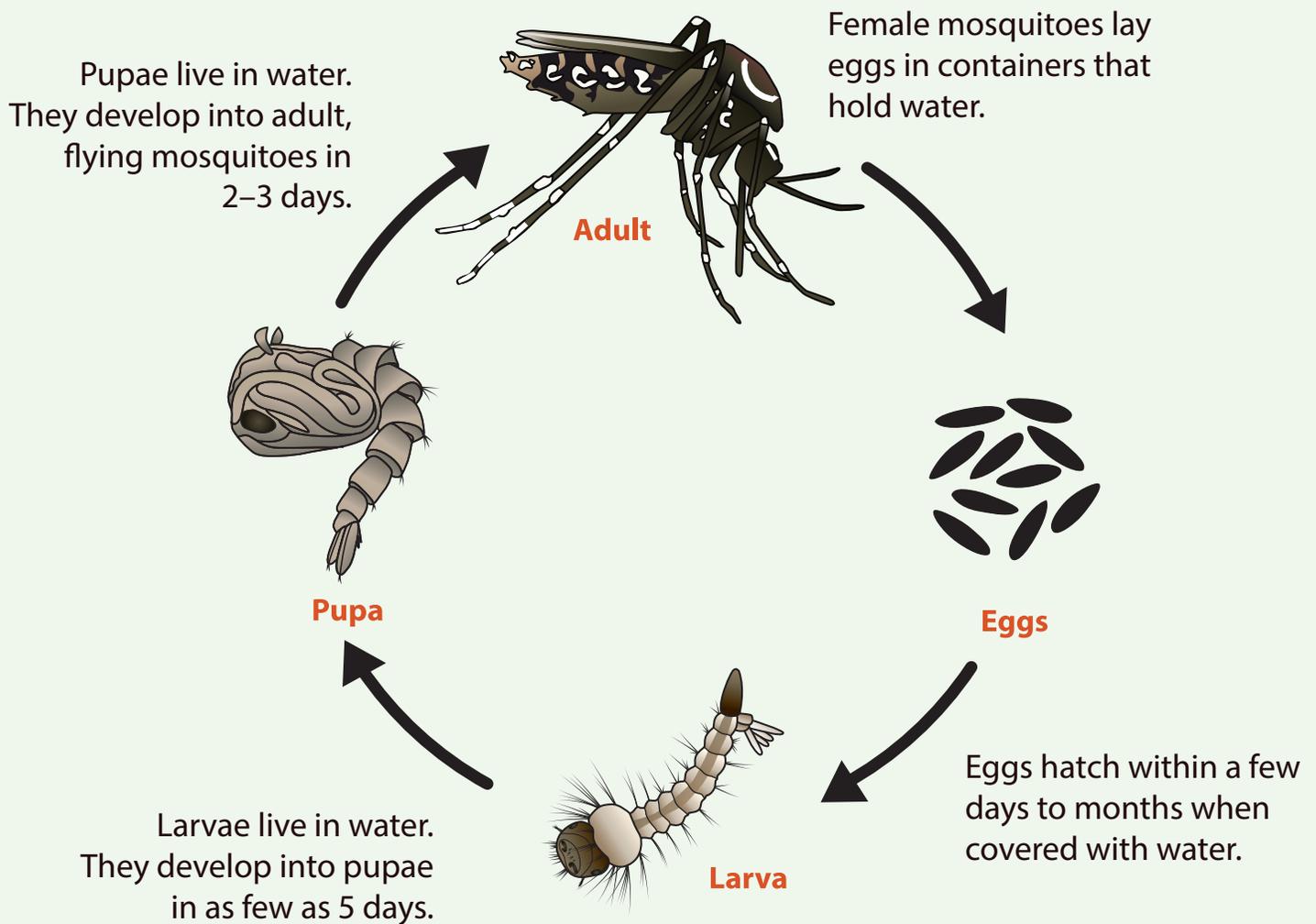


Mosquito Life Cycle



Aedes aegypti and *Ae. albopictus*

It takes about 7–10 days for an egg to develop into an adult mosquito.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Life stages of *Ae. aegypti* and *Ae. albopictus* mosquitoes

Eggs

- Adult, female mosquitoes lay eggs on the inner walls of containers with water above the waterline.
- Eggs stick to container walls like glue. They can survive drying out for up to 8 months. Mosquito eggs can even survive a winter in the southern United States.
- Mosquitoes only need a small amount of water to lay eggs. Bowls, cups, fountains, tires, barrels, vases, and any other container storing water make a great “nursery.”

Larva

- Larvae live in the water. They hatch from mosquito eggs. This happens when water (from rain or a sprinkler) covers the eggs.
- Larvae can be seen in the water. They are very active and are often called “wigglers.”

Pupa

- Pupae live in the water. An adult mosquito emerges from the pupa and flies away.

Adult

- Adult female mosquitoes bite people and animals. Mosquitoes need blood to produce eggs.
- After feeding, female mosquitoes look for water sources to lay eggs.
- *Ae. aegypti* and *Ae. albopictus* don't fly long distances. In its lifetime, a mosquito will only fly within a few blocks.
- *Ae. aegypti* mosquitoes prefer to live near and bite people.
- Because *Ae. albopictus* bite people and animals, they can live in or near homes.
- Mosquitoes live indoors and outdoors.

For more information on diseases spread by mosquitoes:

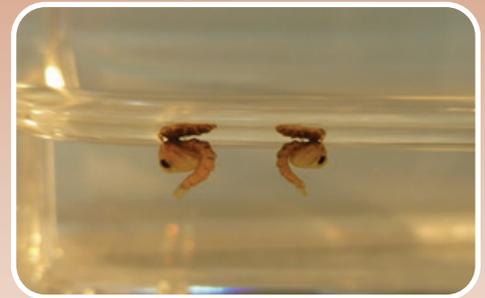
- www.cdc.gov/chikungunya
- www.cdc.gov/dengue
- www.cdc.gov/Zika



Eggs look like black dirt.



Larvae in the water.



Pupae in the water.



An adult mosquito emerges from a pupa.



An adult mosquito bites a person.