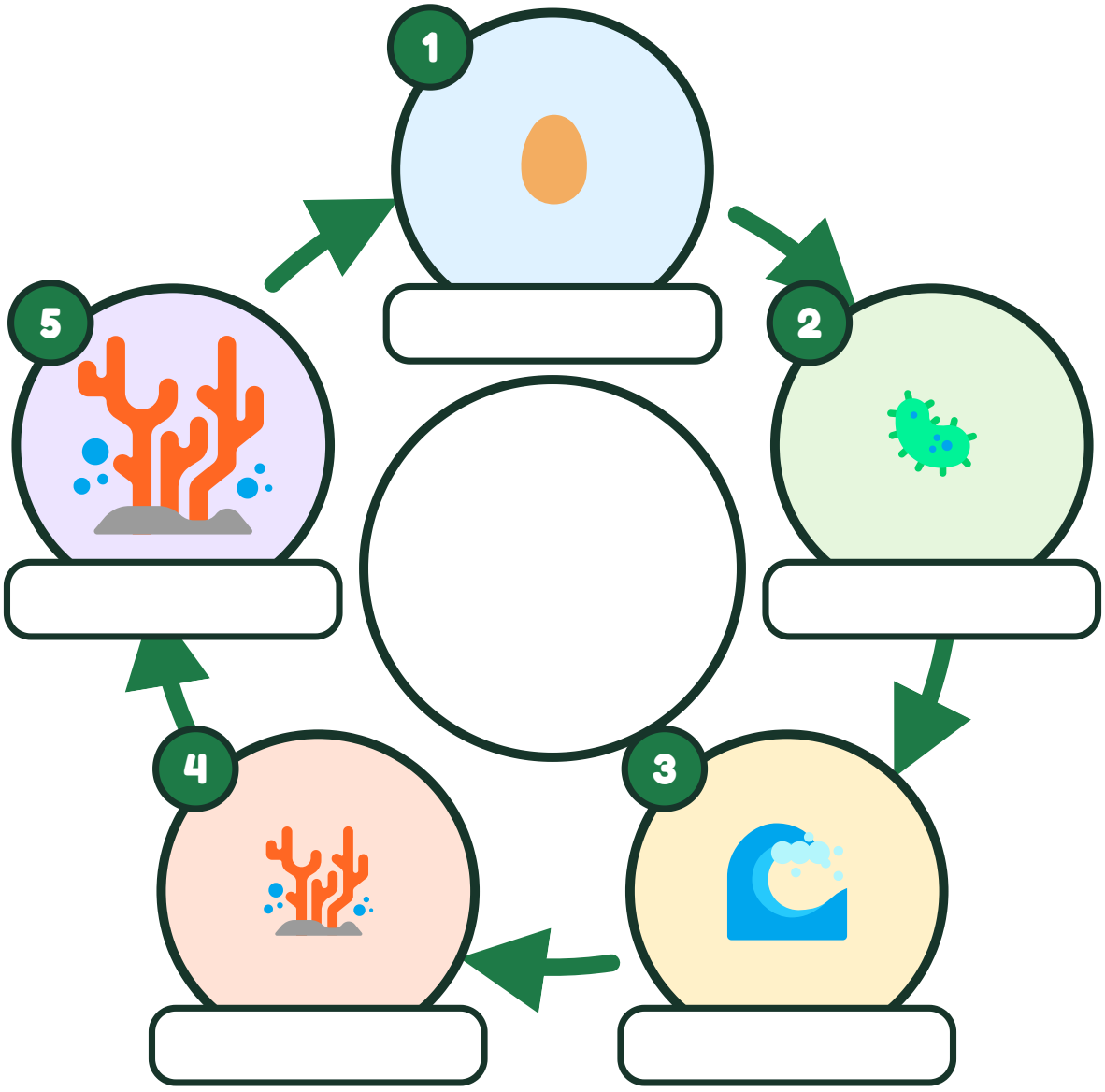
Label the Coral Life Cycle

Write the name of each stage in the empty boxes.

Name: _____ Date: _____



Word bank

Colony • Planula larva • Polyp • Settlement • Spawning

Which stage comes right after **Spawning**? _____

Cut and Sequence

Cut out the cards and put the coral life cycle in order. ✂

Name: _____ Date: _____



Settlement
It attaches to a hard surface on the reef.



Planula larva
A tiny larva swims and drifts for days to weeks.



Spawning
Corals release eggs and sperm, often after a full moon.



Polyp
It becomes a polyp and builds a stony cup.



Colony
The polyp buds into thousands of clones.

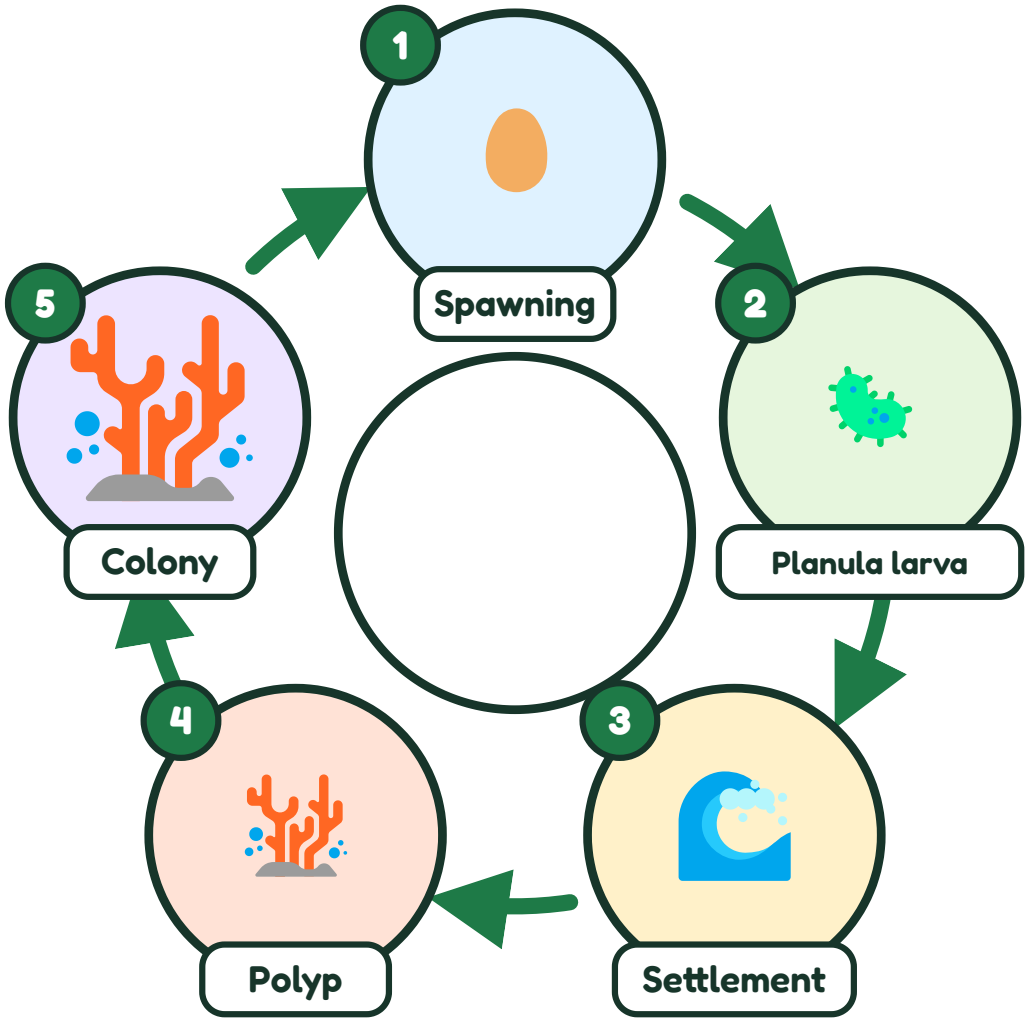
Match the word to its meaning

1. polyp ____	A. when a new polyp grows from a parent polyp as an exact copy
2. spawning ____	B. releasing eggs and sperm into the water
3. planula ____	C. a tiny swimming coral larva
4. budding ____	D. a small, soft coral animal with a mouth and tentacles

Glue your cards in order on another sheet and draw arrows between them.

Answer Key

Coral life cycle



1. **Spawning** – Corals release eggs and sperm, often after a full moon.
2. **Planula larva** – A tiny larva swims and drifts for days to weeks.
3. **Settlement** – It attaches to a hard surface on the reef.
4. **Polyp** – It becomes a polyp and builds a stony cup.
5. **Colony** – The polyp buds into thousands of clones.

Word match: 1–D, 2–B, 3–C, 4–A