Struggle is Good, I Want to Fly!

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One day a little boy found a caterpillar and took him home to take care of him.

He checked on the caterpillar every day and made sure there were lots of leaves for food.

Then the little boy noticed that one day the caterpillar was starting to spin (吐絲(作成繭)) its chrysalis (蝶蛹) to prepare for metamorphosis (羽化、變態). The little boy was so excited to see the butterfly that this caterpillar would become.

After a couple weeks, the little boy saw a small hole in the cocoon (蛾繭) and noticed that the butterfly was struggling to get out of its cocoon. Then he saw that the butterfly was struggling so hard and worried that it might not be able to do it. The little boy thought that this struggle wasn't right and that the butterfly needed his help.

The little boy cut the chrysalis to make the hole bigger and the butterfly emerged!

But the butterfly's body was very swollen and the wings were small and shriveled (有皺摺(皺紋)). The little boy was confused — he thought the butterfly would be able to fly and just needed some intervention.

But that never happened. The butterfly was never able to fly. It spent the rest of its life crawling around with shriveled wings.

The little boy didn’t know that the butterfly needed to struggle to emerge from its cocoon – that the struggle is what strengthens its wings so that it can fly! The struggle out of the tiny hole in its cocoon is what pushes the fluid out of its abdomen and into its wings. Without the struggle, the butterfly would never be able to fly.