1. Some mature cysts, known as trophozoites, are passed in stool, but do not survive outside the host.
2. Cysts mature into trophozoites inside the host.
3. Inside the colon, trophozoites undergo encystation, or a process involving transformation back into cysts.
4. Cysts are released back into the environment via fecal matter.
5. Dormant cysts are ingested.
6. Trophozoites multiply via asexual reproduction.
7. Giardia cysts remain dormant in food and water sources until being ingested by a host.