

CIRCLE OF LIFE

Life cycle of a Frog



Grow with me



Terrapin



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Soggy 'n' slimy

Imagine having to spend your life sitting in a puddle of water and feeling soggy! Sounds uncomfortable, doesn't it? Not for a frog though! Give a frog a chance to be dry, and it wouldn't be interested.

Let's find out **More...**

The North American wood frog survives the harsh winter by freezing itself. It stops breathing, and its heart stops beating. When spring sets in, the frog resumes its original form and is back to life within ten hours.





In fact, frogs produce a slime to keep their skin moist all the time. This is because a frog breathes through its skin. It is an amphibian, and can live both on land and in water. These interesting creatures can not only hop and jump, but also swim and glide!



Frogs can change their colour according to the changes in light, moisture, temperature, or even mood!



TAKE CARE

Frogs are shy by nature, so they prefer to live in places that are quiet, and away from any human activity.

Hopping high

A frog begins its journey as an egg, either under water or outside it in a damp place. A mother frog lays a floating group of eggs, also known as frog spawn. Sometimes, several thousand eggs are laid all at once. Only a few, however, will hatch and grow into adults. A jelly-like covering surrounds and protects the eggs. The egg hatches into a tiny fish-like creature with a long tail, called a tadpole.



1

Frog spawn



5

Adult frog



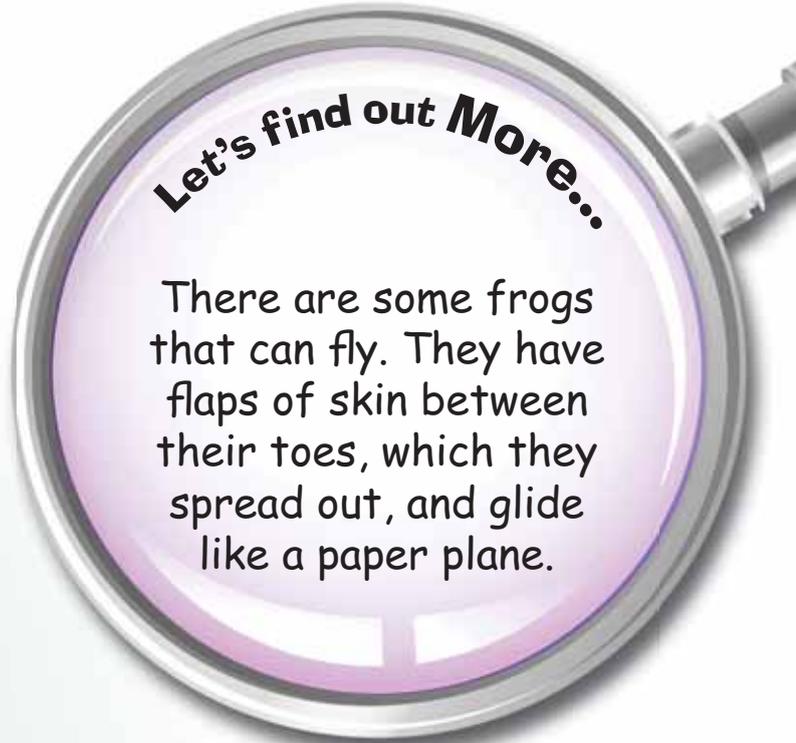
4

Front legs develop

4



The tadpole grows legs and looks like a swimming lizard with a tail. Finally, the tail disappears and the tadpole transforms into a frog with bulging eyes and four legs.



Let's find out **More...**

There are some frogs that can fly. They have flaps of skin between their toes, which they spread out, and glide like a paper plane.



2

Legless tadpole



3

Hind legs of the tadpole develop



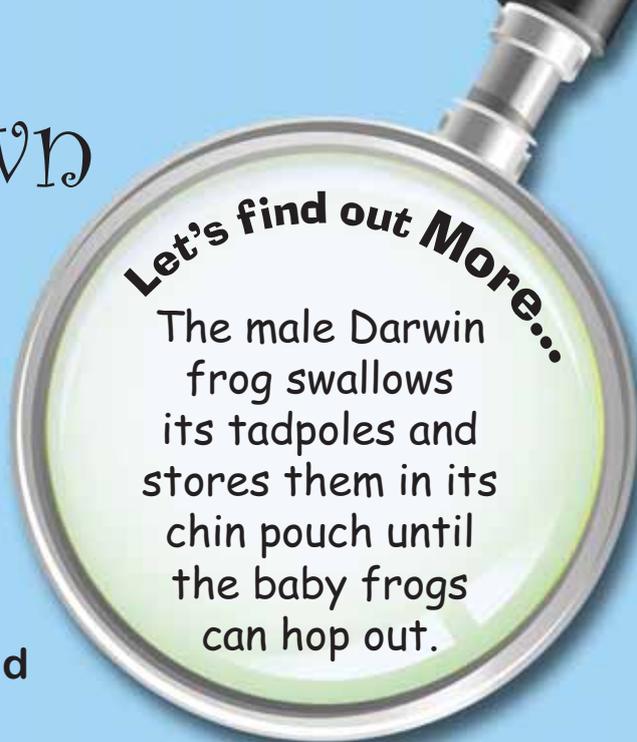
TAKE CARE ~

Most frogs dislike being touched. The salt present on human hands irritates them, making them squirm.

Squiggly spawn

A frog's life begins in a messy pile of clear jelly. This pile is actually thousands of eggs laid together. If you look closely at the eggs, you will see a thick, black dot in the centre of each egg. You may even find the dot squiggling inside the egg. This is a tiny, black, fish-like creature that will turn into a croaking frog in about six weeks.

Most frog eggs are found in still water.



The black spot in the centre is the embryo.



After the egg hatches, a tiny little tadpole emerges. It clings to plants in the water until it has grown stronger. A week later, the tadpole is all set to swim.

The embryo grows inside the egg, which will hatch into a tadpole.



TAKE CARE

The large and slippery mass of frog eggs is too big to be eaten by an enemy. This is nature's way of protecting the eggs.





Tiny tadpole

Like a fish, the tadpole can also breathe under water. It breathes with the help of gills present on the side of its body. As the tadpole grows, the gills shrink, and the lungs develop, allowing it to breathe on land.

The eyes on the sides of the tadpole's head move up, towards the top. Its body grows longer, and front legs start appearing.

A tadpole is also called a polliwog.



TAKE CARE

If you are planning to keep tadpoles in a tank, provide meat for them when they begin to grow their legs, or else they will eat each other.

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