

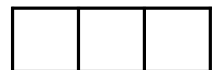
# Frogs

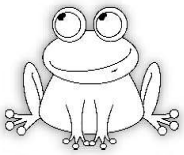
Frogs are unique animals. They are found all over the world, except in Antarctica. They are amphibians, which means they live part of their life in water and part on land. Frogs are cold blooded, which means their body temperature is the same as their surroundings. They cannot internally control their temperature, so they must find a warm spot in the sun if they get too cold, or find a shady, cool spot if they get too hot. Their skin is wet and slimy, and actually absorbs water into their body, so they do not have to drink to survive.

An adult female frog will lay eggs in the water. The eggs hatch into tadpoles, which look more like fish than frogs. During the first few months, a tadpole's tail will get shorter, and it will start to grow legs. Soon, the tail will disappear, and the legs will be longer. The tadpole has turned into a frog! When a frog is grown, it still needs to stay near water to keep its skin moist.

A frog's hind legs are very strong, enabling it to leap great distances. A cricket frog, which is about four cm long, can leap 40 times its length in one jump! Frogs have long, sticky tongues that flip out rapidly in order to catch insects, then retract back into the frog's mouth. Frogs swallow their prey in one piece because they only have teeth in their upper jaw.

A frog has many natural predators, such as raccoons, turtles, birds, and snakes. Many frogs have skin that can be poisonous in order to protect themselves. Others are able to use camouflage to hide from their enemies. Some frogs can even make a loud scream to scare off a potential predator!





# Frogs

Answer the questions below. Use crayons or colored pencils to underline your evidence in the passage.



What is unique about an amphibian?

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Describe a frog's skin.

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How far can a cricket frog jump?

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Why do frogs swallow their food in one piece?

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What are two ways a frog protects itself from predators?

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Make an inference. What would make the best habitat for a frog?

desert    iceberg    pond    ocean



Circle words or phrases in the passage that gave you a clue.

Would you like living in the water? Why or why not?

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