THE WORLD OF AMPHIBIANS

AMPHIBIANS

- live on land & in water.
- webbed feet.
- breathe with lungs & gills.
- cold-blooded.
- moist smooth skin, (no hair or fur)
- 4 legs (sometimes none)
- lay many eggs.
WHAT AMPHIBIANS HAVE IN COMMON

1. Amphibians are vertebrate animals. This means they have backbones. A backbone is part of the endoskeleton, the bones inside the body that give an animal shape and support.

2. Amphibians live part of their lives on land and part in or near water. Amphibians live in the water and breathe with gills during the larval stage of life. As they grow, most amphibians will develop lungs and legs, which allow them to live on land. Amphibians are fittingly named. The word amphibian comes from the Greek words amphi (which means "both") and bios (which means "life").

3. Amphibians are cold-blooded. Amphibians are not able to make their own body heat like humans can. Their body temperatures change with their environment. This means they are ectothermic.

4. Most amphibians have smooth, moist skin. Many adult amphibians need to stay near water in order to keep their skin moist. Amphibians cannot drink with their mouths, so their skin also absorbs water.

5. Amphibians hatch from jelly-like eggs and go through metamorphosis. The physical changes amphibians go through in their lifetimes is called metamorphosis.

6. Young amphibians breathe with gills. When they are adults, most breathe through lungs. When the eggs hatch, the larvae look very different from their parents. The babies will have gills instead of lungs, and they won't have any legs. As they develop in the water, they will begin to grow legs and look more like the parents. Young amphibians will not leave the water until they are fully developed.
Types of Amphibians

Frogs and toads are amphibians that lose their tails when they reach adulthood. Frogs have smooth, moist skin. Toads have dry, bumpy skin. Toads have shorter legs than frogs do. This is because they tend to walk rather than jump.

Salamanders are amphibians that keep their tails when they reach adulthood. They resemble lizards, but they do not have scales. Salamanders have smooth, moist skin. They can regenerate lost limbs and are generally inactive during the daytime.

Amphibian Facts

Use the words in the box to complete the sentences.

| lungs | gills | metamorphosis | skin | eggs | amphibian |

1. The word ________________________________ means “double life.”

2. Adult amphibians lay jelly-like ______________ in water.

3. When an amphibian hatchling comes out of the egg, it breathes through ____________________________
   
   When most amphibians become adults, they breathe through ______________________ and ______________________

4. Amphibians go through different stages of life. This is called ____________________________

In the space below, draw the metamorphosis of an amphibian. Do not forget to label each stage.
WHAT IS AN AMPHIBIAN?

Think of three animals. You probably thought of vertebrates. A vertebrate is an animal with a backbone. A giraffe is a vertebrate. So is a dog, an ape, and a moose.

One group of vertebrate animals is the **amphibians**. Amphibians include frogs, toads, and salamanders. Amphibians are **cold-blooded** animals. Cold-blooded means an animal’s body temperature changes as the outside temperature changes. The temperature of your body always stays the same. Even if you are outside on a cold day, your body temperature is 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit.

When amphibians reproduce, they lay eggs. Most lay eggs in water. The young that hatch live in the water. This is the first stage in the life of an amphibian. The young breathe with **gills**. Gills are body parts that take air out of the water.

When amphibians are adults, they live on land. This is the second stage of their lives. On land, amphibians breathe air with lungs. Most amphibians also take in air through their skin. To be able to do this, the skin must be moist. So amphibians are found near water or in wet places.

A young frog is called a **tadpole**. It looks very different from its parents. A tadpole has gills and a tail. It does not have legs. As it grows, the tadpole loses its gills and grows lungs. It loses its tail and grows legs. When these changes are over, the tadpole leaves the water and lives on land. It is now an adult frog.
1. Amphibians are breathe in water.
2. Amphibians are found in cold-blooded.
3. A tadpole uses gills to wet places.
4. When amphibians reproduce, they an adult.
5. A frog with lungs is lay eggs.

Use the words below to complete the sentences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>gills</th>
<th>lungs</th>
<th>tadpole</th>
<th>vertebrate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. An animal with a backbone is a ________________.
2. Most adult amphibians breathe with ________________.
3. Young amphibians breathe in water with ________________.
4. A frog with gills is called a ________________.

Answer the questions.
1. What group of animals do amphibians belong to? ________________
2. When amphibians reproduce, what do they do? ________________

3. Where do young amphibians live? ________________
4. What do most adult amphibians use to breathe? ________________
5. What is a tadpole? ________________
6. What does being a cold-blooded animal mean? ________________

7. What three kinds of animals are in the amphibian group? ________________
1 Which of the following animals is an amphibian?
A [Image of a fish]
B [Image of a frog]
C [Image of a tadpole]
D [Image of a salamander]

2 What types of vertebrates existed before amphibians?
A Land animals only
B Sea animals only
C Both land and sea animals
D Dinosaurs

3 How are urodeles' tails different from anurans' tails?
A Urodeles have long tails, anurans have short tails
B Urodeles have flat tails, anurans have long tails
C Urodeles have flat tails, anurans have no tails
D Urodeles have no tails, anurans have short tails

4 What can you infer about conditions from the information presented in the movie?
A They can live only on land
B They are more closely related to reptiles than amphibians
C They can only live underwater
D They can hunt without using their sense of sight

5 If you wanted to look for frogs' eggs, where would be the best place to go?
A A lake
B A vegetable garden
C A tree
D Underneath a rock

6 What do amphibians have in common with squirrels?
A Both eat nuts
B Both are cold-blooded
C Both are good swimmers
D Both hibernate

7 Amphibians couldn't live on land if they didn't:
A Lose their tails
B Develop lungs
C Grow legs
D Develop backbones

8 Since they are ectothermic, newts' body temperatures vary. In the previous sentence, what does "ectothermic" mean?
A Water-dwelling
B Meat-eating
C Cold-blooded
D Very small

9 Which of the following is the best example of metamorphosis?
A A caterpillar turning into a butterfly
B A baby growing into a child
C A young bird flying out of its nest
D A young panda developing black-and-white markings on its fur

10 Which word accurately describes frogs?
A Carnivorous
B Endothermic
C Asexual
D Invertebrate
DRAWR IT

Draw the life stages of a frog in sequence from egg to adult. Describe the adaptations at each stage that help the frog live in water or on land.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>TADPOLE</th>
<th>YOUNG FROG</th>
<th>ADULT FROG</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FILL IN THE BLANK

The body changes that allow an amphibian to go from living in water to living on land are examples of ..........................................

The ancestors of amphibians first came onto land some ........................................ million years ago.

Amphibians are ........................................, which means their body temperature is regulated by their surroundings.

Amphibians survive extreme heat or cold by going into ........................................, a state of reduced metabolism.
FAMILY TREE

Label the three groups of amphibians, and list at least one example of each type. Write a brief description of what the animals in each group look like.
AMPHIBIANS: AMAZING ANIMALS

DIRECTIONS: Select the answer, from the four choices given, by circling the correct letter.

1. Amphibians are similar to other classes of animals because they also have backbones. However, they have special characteristics that make them unique. Specifically, their name means "______" which accounts for their ability to live on both land and in the water. Most amphibians are born in the water, develop lungs and live on the land.
   A. double life
   B. one life
   C. short life
   D. water life

2. Today, there are fewer kinds of amphibians. One of the rarest type of amphibian is the ______. These creatures look like earthworms and spend most of their time under the ground. They have sharp teeth and, unlike other amphibians, have scales. Few people have ever seen these creatures.
   A. frogs
   B. salamanders
   C. turtles
   D. caecilians

3. The second type of amphibian is often mistaken for a lizard. However, ______, unlike lizards, do not have scales or claws. This creature's skin is moist and smooth and it can come in a variety of colors.
   A. frogs
   B. salamanders
   C. caecilians
   D. toads

4. Salamanders that live in the water breathe through gills just as fish do. These salamanders have poorly developed legs but their tails enable them to be excellent swimmers. They will eat small fish and must be careful that they do not become prey to larger fish and other marine predators.
   A. water-like
   B. terrestrial
   C. aquatic
   D. river

5. The land salamanders can survive only in damp places. These salamanders breathe through lungs but must keep their skin moist in order to provide an adequate supply of oxygen. They have short legs for walking and they sway back and forth as they move forward. They will eat insects and worms and may have dull colors to camouflage them in the woodland areas.
   A. terrestrial
   B. marine
   C. swamp
   D. microscopic

6. The third group of amphibians is the most common of all and is found on every continent except Antarctica. The ____ start their life in water and then develop lungs and live for the most part on land. Some types spend part of their day in the water looking for insects to eat. In most cases they have stronger and larger back legs that make them excellent jumpers.
   A. frogs and toads
   B. lizards
   C. salamanders
   D. newts

7. Many frogs need rainy and damp environments in which to survive. In Central America the _____ provide an excellent habitat for a variety of frogs. Many of the plants that grow there provide the needed water for survival. Frogs living in this region may have special traits for survival which include poison in their glands that is quite lethal.
   A. woods
   B. rainforests
   C. meadows
   D. swamps

8. Most amphibians need water in which they will reproduce. This process begins with a familiar mating call by the male frog. When a mate is found, the male grabs the female frog in an embrace called _____ As the female lays her eggs, the male will then fertilize them with his sperm. The eggs are laid together in a mass, each frog egg surrounded by a jelly-like substance.
   A. grasping
   B. amplexus
   C. pinning
   D. latching

9. The egg stage is the first in the life cycle of the frog. When the egg hatches, a frog larva called a the eggs are together in a mass, emerges and starts swimming and looking for food. These creatures have a large head and large tail for swimming. Like fish, they also breathe through gills until they grow further and develop lungs. Eventually, they will start to develop legs and feet, transforming them into frogs.
   A. nymph
   B. pupa
   C. tadpole
   D. fry

10. Frogs, like other creatures, have distinct stages of development and each state is unique. This life cycle is called the eggs are together in a mass, and consists of the egg stage, tadpole stage and adult frog stage. At each of these stages the creature looks completely different from any of the other stages. Amphibians have a great deal of variety and diversity among their members.
   A. metamorphosis
   B. evolution C. transformation D. metabolism
### Frog Scavenger Hunt

**Fact Card #1:** Name three animals that are amphibians.

__________________________________________________________________

**Fact Card #2:** What do frog eggs feel like?

__________________________________________________________________

**Fact Card #3:** What do tadpoles have that allows them to breathe underwater?

__________________________________________________________________

**Fact Card #4:** Do a tadpole’s front legs or back legs appear first?

__________________________________________________________________

**Fact Card #5:** What do adult frogs have that allows them to breathe air?

__________________________________________________________________

**Fact Card #6:** What does cold-blooded mean?

__________________________________________________________________

**Fact Card #7:** Why don't frogs live in the ocean?

__________________________________________________________________

**Fact Card #8:** Are adult frogs herbivores, omnivores, or carnivores?

__________________________________________________________________

**Fact Card #9:** How does a frog's tongue feel?

__________________________________________________________________
Fact Card #10: What is the largest species of frog in the world?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card #11: How does a toad’s skin feel?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card #12: Why don’t frogs need to drink water?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card #13: What is the most poisonous frog in the world?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card #14: What is a herpetologist?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card #15: Why do many poisonous frogs have brightly-colored skin?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card #16: Name all on the continents on which frogs live.

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card #17: What are the changes through a frog’s life called?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card #18: What do frogs use their teeth for?

__________________________________________________________________
1: An adaptation that helps frogs swim is their _____ toes.
2: Adult salamanders and newts have these, but adult frogs and toads do not.
6: You might find a Red-backed _____ under a log.
8: These have warts and poison glands in sacs behind their heads.
9: “Metamorphosis” means a _____ of shape.
10: Most amphibians lay these in small ponds or pools.
12: An animal that lives on land and in the water.
13: There are 9 species of these in Ontario.
15: The largest amphibian in Ontario.

ACROSS

1: A moist habitat where many frogs sing in the spring.
3: A young frog or toad.
4: A very small frog with a very loud voice (2 words).
5: An amphibian whose song sounds like "jug-o-rum" (the largest frog in Ontario).
7: Many frogs bury themselves in this to hibernate for the winter.
11: A frog or toad uses this to catch insects.
14: As tadpoles turn into frogs or toads, their _____ are replaced by lungs.

DOWN
AMPHIBIAN CODE PUZZLE:
Use the "Code Key" at the bottom of the page to fill in the blanks and complete the statements on this page.

AMPHIBIANS ARE ______________ ANIMALS

WHICH MEANS THEY HAVE A _______________

AMPHIBIANS ______________ USING

______________ WHEN YOUNG, AND

______________ WHEN THEY ARE ADULTS. THEIR SKIN IS ______________

AND THEY HAVE NO ______________ OR

CODE KEY: A B C D E F G H I J K L

M N O P Q R S T U V W

Amphibian Word Find

Find the amphibian words in the word search. The words go across, down, backwards, and diagonally.

eggs  salamander  lungs  gills  vertibrate

habitat  frog  toad  newt  water

S Q S O R D P M L V
G A Q L E S C Z E N
N O L F L F T R W E
U Y G A I I T U Y W
L S S D M E G F Z T
T A T I B A H O A F
J K T R A C N D J R
Z J A T O A D D V O
G T Q Z E G G S E G
E X W A T E R K K R

12
Amphibians

Amphibians are vertebrates that spend part of their lives underwater (breathing with gills) and the remainder on land (breathing with lungs).

Amphibians are cold-blooded; their body temperature depends on the temperature of their environment.

There are three groups (orders) of living amphibians: newts and salamanders (urodeles); frogs and toads (anurans); and caecilians (Apodas - the worm-like gymnophiones).
Frogs live in most parts of the world. You can find frogs in most ponds, lakes, and streams.

Frogs move by jumping. The back legs of a frog are longer than its front legs. These long, strong legs help the frog jump. When a frog is scared, it often jumps back into the water. In the water, frogs are very good swimmers. Their toes have webs of skin between them that help them swim.

A frog has a long, sticky tongue that it uses to get food. Frogs eat insects. When a frog sees an insect, it shoots out its tongue and hits the insect with it. The insect sticks to the tongue! Then the frog pulls back its tongue and swallows its meal.

Male frogs make a loud croaking sound to attract females. They fill their lungs with air and then force the air out. Each kind of frog has its own special call.

One of the biggest frogs in the world is the bullfrog. Bullfrogs can grow to be 8 inches long. They eat mostly insects. But because they are so large, they can catch mice, bats, and even other frogs.

Most frogs have thin, moist skin. Many frogs are protected from animals that might eat them by a poison that is made in their skin. An animal that gets a taste of the poison usually drops the frog.

Frogs are useful to people because of the huge number of insects they eat. Without frogs, insects could become pests in many places.
1. **Answer True or False.**
   1. Frogs eat mostly insects. __________
   2. Frogs move by walking. __________
   3. Frogs have webbed feet. __________
   4. When a frog is scared, it jumps into a hole. __________
   5. The back legs of a frog are used for jumping. __________
   6. Most frogs lay their eggs in water. __________
   7. Frogs are found only in warm countries. __________

2. **Complete the sentences.**
   1. In the water, frogs are very good ____________________________.
   2. Most frogs are found near ____________________________.
   3. To attract females, male frogs make a ____________________________.
   4. Bullfrogs are so large that they can eat ____________________________.
   5. Frogs are useful to people because they ____________________________.

3. **Answer the questions.**
   1. What body part helps a frog swim? ____________________________
   2. What do most frogs eat? ____________________________
   3. How does a frog catch its food? ____________________________
   4. How are many frogs protected from their enemies? ____________________________
TOADS

Toads are like frogs in some ways. Toads lay their eggs in water. The young that hatch from the eggs are tadpoles.

Toads move by jumping. They have a long, sticky tongue for catching insects. The males make a croaking noise to attract females.

Toads are different from frogs in some ways. The back legs of a toad are not as large as those of a frog. Frogs have smooth skin. Toads have rough, dry skin with bumps. Toads spend more time on land than frogs. Many toads only go into the water to lay eggs.

Some toads live in the hot desert. To escape the heat, toads stay in holes in the ground. A toad may stay in its hole for almost a year. It will come out when it rains. Then the toad will lay its eggs in rain puddles. The tadpoles that hatch from the eggs become adults before the sun dries up the puddles. When the water is gone, the toads go back to their holes. They won't come out until the next rain.

Most toads live in forests and gardens. People find toads helpful because they eat insects that can harm garden plants.

Some people believe that you can get warts from touching a toad. This story is not true. Toads do have a poison in their skin. But you can't be harmed by the poison. The poison bothers some animals that try to eat the toad. Snakes and raccoons are not bothered by the poison. Raccoons roll toads on the ground to rub the poison off. Then they eat the toads.
Answer True or False.
1. Toads are amphibians. 
2. Young toads are tadpoles. 
3. Toads have long, sticky tongues. 
4. Toads use their back legs for jumping. 
5. Toads lay their eggs on land. 
6. Toads have a poison in their skin. 
7. Snakes are food for toads.

Draw lines to complete the sentences.
1. Toads lay their eggs in water.
2. A desert toad leaves its hole when it rains. 
3. Raccoons roll toads on the ground rough and dry. 
4. The tadpoles of desert toads live in rain puddles. 
5. A toad has a skin that is to get rid of the poison on their skin.

Write frog, toad, or both to answer the questions.
1. Which amphibian has longer back legs? 
2. Which amphibian has dry, bumpy skin? 
3. Which amphibian has young called tadpoles? 
4. Which amphibian spends more time on land? 
5. Which amphibian has a long, sticky tongue? 
6. Which amphibian eats insects for food? 
7. Which amphibian has a poison in its skin? 
8. Which amphibian makes croaking sounds? 
9. Which amphibian lays eggs in water?
Is That a Frog or Toad?

What’s the first thing you think of when you see or hear the words frog and toad? Loud “ribbits” or “croaking” calls? Tadpoles swimming in a pond? Long-legged jumpers?

Well, frogs and toads do make loud vocal sounds. And most do begin as tadpoles (though there are a few species that give birth to live young). However, only the true frog is a long-legged jumper. True toads have much shorter back legs that work better for walking or tiny hops.

Toads are actually a type of frog but with some important differences. First, however, let’s list some of the other ways frogs and toads are the same:

1. Both are amphibians. They begin their lives in water, hatching from jelly-like eggs into tadpoles. Then, while living in the water the tadpoles go through a series of body changes called metamorphosis. The end result is a frog or toad.

2. Both are ectothermic or "cold-blooded". This doesn't mean their blood is always cold. It means that their body temperatures are similar to their surroundings.

3. Unlike fish and reptiles, neither frogs nor toads have scales. They both have water-tight skin.

4. The adult forms of both animals have no tails. Both begin their lives as tadpoles with tails for swimming, but the tails disappear as they grow into adulthood.

5. Both have long sticky tongues that can flick out fast to catch bugs. They also eat other wiggly and juicy things like worms and slugs. Depending on the size and species they might also eat tiny fish and other small animals. Both usually swallow their food whole. Gulp, gulp.
While both frogs and toads may look similar to the average person, those with animal knowledge and a careful eye for observation can easily spot the differences.

1. Adult toads live mostly on land while frogs go back and forth from land to water.

2. Toads have much dryer and bumpier skin. Frogs usually have a moist, smooth skin that needs water to keep from drying out.

3. Toads usually have plumper bodies than frogs. Frogs tend to be thinner, allowing them to glide quickly through the water.

4. Frogs have webbed feet whereas a toad's foot has separated toes. The frog's webbed feet, along with their longer legs, make them much better swimmers.

5. Frogs usually lay eggs in clusters and toads usually lay eggs in chains.

6. Most species of toads do not have teeth. Frogs have tiny teeth in their upper jaws.

7. Toads have a special parotid gland filled with poison located behind each eye. When an enemy attacks a toad, it protects itself by squirting the poison. While most species of toads are not harmful to humans, they can hurt pets and other small animals. Frogs do not have poison glands behind their eyes, but a few types frogs can ooze a poison onto their skin to keep away predators.

Next time you see a four-legged amphibian swimming through the water or hopping across your back yard, take a closer look to determine if it is a frog or a toad.
Is That a Frog or Toad?

1. Read each sentence below and determine whether it is describing frogs, toads, or both. Write frogs, toads, or both on the line next to each sentence.

__________________ We do not have scales covering our bodies.
__________________ We have webbed feet.
__________________ We have tiny teeth in our mouths.
__________________ We swallow our food whole.
__________________ We have bumpy skin.

2. Explain how toads lay their eggs differently than frogs.

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

3. Frogs and toads are both cold-blooded. What does cold-blooded mean?

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

4. How has the author organized information in this article?
   a. He lists information in sequential order.
   b. He lists similarities and difference in order of importance.
   c. He contrasts frogs and toads, then compares them.
   d. He compares frogs and toads, then contrasts them.

19
Salamanders look very different from frogs and toads. They have very short legs. They move by walking. When they hatch, young salamanders have legs. Adults have a long tail.

Salamanders are like frogs and toads in some ways. Salamanders are cold-blooded. They have moist skin. They eat worms and insects.

Salamanders lay eggs in the water. The young have gills and spend the first stage of their lives in the water. Most adult salamanders grow lungs and live on land. Salamanders are found under rocks and logs in cool, damp places.

The giant salamander of Japan is 5 feet long. But most salamanders are less than 6 inches long.

1. Answer True or False.
   1. Salamanders are cold-blooded. _________
   2. Young salamanders have lungs. _________
   3. An adult salamander has a long tail. _________

2. Answer the questions.
   1. Where do salamanders lay their eggs? _________________________
   2. What do salamanders eat? _________________________
REVIEW-----

Part A
Read each sentence. Write True if the sentence is true and False if it is false.

1. Amphibians are cold-blooded animals. ________
2. Young frogs are called salamanders. ________
3. Amphibians and insects are invertebrates. ________
4. Gills help a tadpole breathe in water. ________
5. The poison on a toad’s skin can harm a person. ________
6. Desert toads lay their eggs in rain puddles. ________
7. Frogs have webbed feet that help them swim. ________
8. Salamanders lose their tails when they become adults. ________

Part B
On each blank, write the word that completes the sentence. Use the words below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>amphibia</th>
<th>lungs</th>
<th>toad</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>frog</td>
<td>salamander</td>
<td>vertebrate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gills</td>
<td>tadpole</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. An animal with a backbone is called a ____________.
2. Frogs, toads, and salamanders are all ____________.
3. An adult amphibian with a tail is a ____________.
4. Most adult amphibians breathe with ____________.
5. An amphibian with dry, bumpy skin is a ____________.
6. A young frog is called a ____________.
7. Young amphibians breathe with ____________.
Use the following words to complete.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>cold-blooded</th>
<th>earthworms</th>
<th>eggs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(long sticky tongue)</td>
<td>legs</td>
<td>lungs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gills</td>
<td>smooth</td>
<td>bumpy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>metamorphosis</td>
<td>tails</td>
<td>water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tadpoles</td>
<td>skin</td>
<td>short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>backbone</td>
<td>land</td>
<td>warm-blooded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(caecilians)</td>
<td>(salamanders and newts)</td>
<td>(frogs and toads)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Amphibians are vertebrates. They have a _________________.
2. Amphibians are _________________. They change temperature with their surroundings.
3. Frogs and toads have powerful back __________ for jumping.
4. Caecilians look like _________________. They do not have legs.
5. Most amphibians start their lives in ____________.
6. Amphibians can be divided into three groups:
   1) Anurans ________________
   2) Urodeles ________________
   3) Apoda ________________
7. Frogs have __________ skin and long legs.
8. Amphibians have moist _________________.
9. Toads have __________ skin and short legs.
10. Amphibians lay ________________ in water.
11. Larvae or ________________ live in water.
12. Salamanders and newts have long bodies with __________ and four __________ legs.
13. Tadpoles have __________ at the sides of their heads and they use them to breathe underwater.
14. Amphibians go through a stage called ________________. It means a complete change of appearance and transformation.
15. Instead of gills, most adult amphibians have __________ to help them breathe.
16. Frogs and toads have a ________________ to catch insects.
Multiple Choice.

1. Which of the following best describes amphibians?
   A. Amphibians have hair.
   B. Butterflies are amphibians.
   C. Newts are amphibians.
   D. Amphibians are warm-blooded animals.

2. Amphibian larvae live in water.
   A. True  B. False

3. Which of the following is true about metamorphosis?
   A. Caecilians have limbs after metamorphosis.
   B. Amphibians need to go through metamorphosis.
   C. Amphibians use lungs to breathe before metamorphosis.
   D. Frogs have tails after metamorphosis.

4. Which of the following animals are amphibians?
   A. Newts   B. Whales
   C. Butterflies   D. Snakes

5. Salamanders have scales. Lizards have moist and smooth skin.
   A. True  B. False

6. Which of the following statements is not true?
   A. Frogs do not have tails after metamorphosis.
   B. Salamanders are amphibians.
   C. Lizards are amphibians.
   D. All amphibians are cold-blooded animals.
Frog Scavenger Hunt Activity

Materials: Frog questions worksheet (pages 2-3) 18 frog fact cards (pages 4-8) Scissors and scotch tape

Preparation: Print the frog fact cards and cut them apart.

Make copies of the frog questions worksheet (2-sided). Each student will need his or her own copy.

Hide all 18 frog fact cards around your classroom where students will be able to find them. You can put them on the back of your classroom door, on chairs, on the computer keyboard, on the sides of student desks, or wherever you like.

Activity: Students receive copies of the question worksheet. They have to search the classroom to find the fact cards to answer the questions.

After they have completed the question sheet, you can go over the answers together with the class.

Management tips: You may want to make this a silent activity so students don’t share answers with each other.

You can have the kids work by themselves or with partners.

Don’t be afraid to hide the facts in tough places. Kids think it’s more fun when they have to search around a little.

Examples of good hiding spots might include:

• sticking out of a book, like a bookmark
• the back of the classroom door
• laying flat on the bookshelf
• on the back of the teacher’s chair
• on the side of your computer monitor

Have a plan for students who finish early. You may want to have an assignment for them to complete when they’re done, or you may have them help other students find fact cards.
Frogs, toads, and salamanders are amphibians.

The word amphibian comes from the Greek language. It means “two lives”.

A mother frog can lay thousands of eggs at one time. Frog eggs are not hard like bird eggs. They are wet, soft, and squishy. They feel like jelly.

When a frog hatches from an egg it is a tadpole. Tadpoles do not breath air. They have gills that let them breathe underwater.

When a tadpoles become older, they grow back legs. After that, tiny front legs appear.
Amphibian Scavenger Hunt
Fact Card #5

When tadpoles grow into adult frogs, they lose their tail and gills. They no longer breathe underwater. They grow lungs that breathe air.

Amphibian Scavenger Hunt
Fact Card #6

Frogs are cold-blooded which means that their bodies are the same temperature as the air or water around them.

Amphibian Scavenger Hunt
Fact Card #7

Frogs live in lakes and ponds. They prefer water that is calm and does not move much. Frogs cannot live in saltwater, so you'll never find them in the ocean.

Amphibian Scavenger Hunt
Fact Card #8

Adult frogs are carnivores, which means they eat other animals. Most frogs only eat live animals.
Amphibian Scavenger Hunt
Fact Card #9

To help them catch food, frogs have a long, sticky tongue.

Amphibian Scavenger Hunt
Fact Card #10

The largest frog species in the world is the Goliath Frog. It is about a foot long and weighs about 7 pounds!

Amphibian Scavenger Hunt
Fact Card #11

Frogs have smooth, wet skin. Toads have rough, dry skin.

Amphibian Scavenger Hunt
Fact Card #12

Frogs don’t need to drink water. They can absorb it through their skin.
Amphibian Scavenger Hunt
Fact Card #13
The Poison Dart Frog lives in South America. It is the most dangerous frog in the world. Animals and people can be killed simply by touching its skin.

Amphibian Scavenger Hunt
Fact Card #14
A scientist who studies frogs and other amphibians is called a herpetologist.

Amphibian Scavenger Hunt
Fact Card #15
Most of the world's most poisonous frogs have brightly-colored skin. This warns enemies that they are dangerous to eat.

Amphibian Scavenger Hunt
Fact Card #16
Frogs live on every continent except Antarctica.
Amphibian Scavenger Hunt
Fact Card #17

The changes in a frog throughout its life is called metamorphosis.

Amphibian Scavenger Hunt
Fact Card #18

Frogs have small teeth on the upper edge of their jaw. They do not use the teeth to chew. They swallow their food whole, but use their teeth to hold food in place before swallowing.
**ANSWER KEY**

**Frog Scavenger Hunt**

**Fact Card #1:** Name three animals that are amphibians.

*frogs, toads, and salamanders*

**Fact Card #2:** What do frog eggs feel like?

*wet, soft, and squishy*

**Fact Card #3:** What do tadpoles have that allows them to breathe underwater?

*gills*

**Fact Card #4:** Do a tadpole’s front legs or back legs appear first?

*back legs*

**Fact Card #5:** What do adult frogs have that allows them to breathe air?

*lungs*

**Fact Card #6:** What does cold-blooded mean?

*The animal’s body is the same temperature as the air or water around them.*

**Fact Card #7:** Why don’t frogs live in the ocean?

*They can’t live in salt water. (Also accept: They prefer calm water.)*

**Fact Card #8:** Are adult frogs herbivores, omnivores, or carnivores?

*carnivores*

**Fact Card #9:** How does a frog’s tongue feel?

*sticky*
Fact Card #10: What is the largest species of frog in the world?  
*Goliath Frog*

Fact Card #11: How does a toad’s skin feel?  
*rough and dry*

Fact Card #12: Why don’t frogs need to drink water?  
*They can absorb water through their skin.*

Fact Card #13: What is the most poisonous frog in the world?  
*Poison Dart Frog*

Fact Card #14: What is a herpetologist?  
*a scientist who studies amphibians*

Fact Card #15: Why do many poisonous frogs have brightly-colored skin?  
*to warn predators that they are dangerous*

Fact Card #16: Name all on the continents on which frogs live.  
*North and South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia*

Fact Card #17: What are the changes through a frog’s life called?  
*metamorphosis*

Fact Card #18: What do frogs use their teeth for?  
*holding food in place*
1. Read each sentence below and determine whether it is describing frogs, toads, or both. Write frogs, toads, or both on the line next to each sentence.

**both**  We do not have scales covering our bodies.

**frogs**  We have webbed feet.

**frogs**  We have tiny teeth in our mouths.

**both**  We swallow our food whole

**toads**  We have bumpy skin.

2. Explain how toads lay their eggs differently than frogs.

**Toads lay eggs in long chains. Frogs lay eggs in clusters.**

3. Frogs and toads are both cold-blooded. What does cold-blooded mean?

**Their body temperatures are similar to their surroundings.**

4. How has the author organized information in this article?  
   a. He lists information in sequential order.  
   b. He lists similarities and difference in order of importance.  
   c. He contrasts frogs and toads, then compares them.  
   d. **He compares frogs and toads, then contrasts them.**
Use information from the article “Is That a Frog or Toad?” to help you answer the crossword clues.

**Across**

3. Frogs have these on their upper jaws. **(teeth)**

4. When they hatch from eggs, frogs and toads begin their lives as... **(tadpoles)**

7. Adult toads spend most of their time on... **(land)**

8. A toad has this in its parotid gland. **(poison)**

**Down**

1. a word meaning cold-blooded **(ectothermic)**

2. type of feet found on a frog **(webbed)**

5. vertebrate group to which frogs and toads belong **(amphibians)**

6. Fish and reptiles have these covering their bodies. (Frogs and toads do not have these on their bodies.) **(scales)**