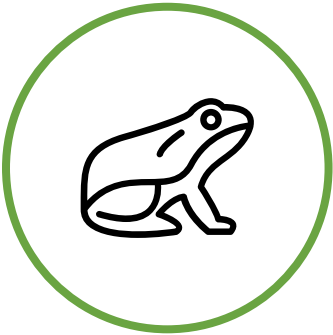


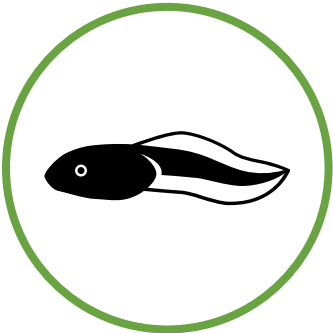
What Is an Amphibian?

Amphibians are a group of animals that includes frogs, toads, salamanders, and newts. All amphibians are alike in some ways. What do all amphibians have in common?



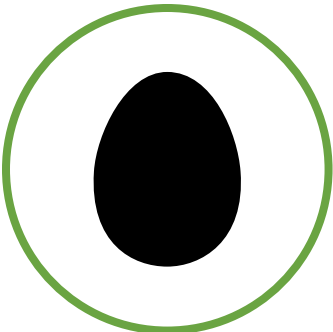
Smooth Skin

Amphibians are the only animals with smooth skin covering their bodies. Amphibians breathe through their lungs and skin and need to keep their skin moist. Their skin is covered in mucous, and they like to live in muggy environments to keep their skin hydrated.



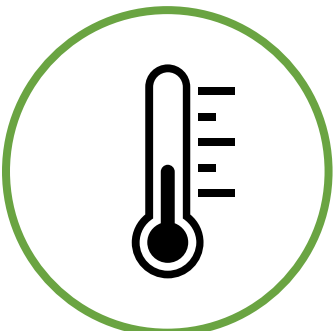
Gills and Lungs

When most amphibians hatch, they have gills to breathe underwater. After a certain point in their life cycle, they go through a metamorphosis, or change, when they develop legs and lungs. This allows amphibians to live their early lives in the water and their adult lives on land.



Eggs

All amphibians lay eggs. Amphibian eggs do not have hard shells and need to be moist to hatch. Most amphibians lay their eggs in water. Amphibians that lay their eggs on land have developed ways to keep their eggs damp. For example, they can lay their eggs in humid conditions.



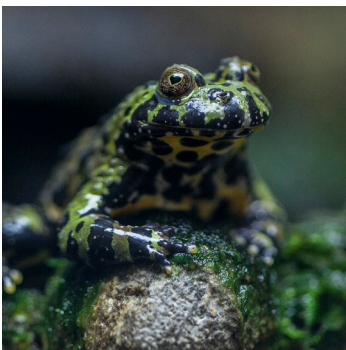
Cold-blooded

Amphibians are cold-blooded. Amphibians cannot control their body temperature like humans do, and instead they use the environment to control their body temperature. When amphibians are cold they can sit under warm sun rays. When amphibians are hot they can sit in a shady spot under a tree.

What Is an Amphibian?

Each sentence is missing a word. Match each sentence to the correct word.

Sentence	Word
1. All amphibians have _____ covering their bodies.	A. metamorphosis
2. Some amphibians have _____ but the young ones do not.	B. eggs
3. Amphibians' bodies look different after _____.	C. smooth skin
4. Baby amphibians grow inside of _____.	D. temperature
5. Amphibians' body _____ changes when it is hot or cold outside.	E. legs



Answers: 1.: C smooth skin; 2.: E. legs; 3.: A. metamorphosis; 4.: B. eggs; 5.: D. temperature.