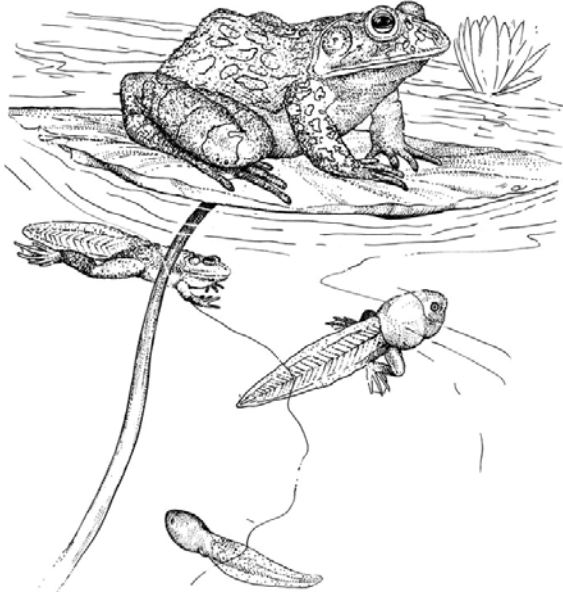


The Frog Life Cycle



A frog begins life as an **egg**. A **tadpole** hatches from the egg. The tadpole changes into a **frog**.

Egg, tadpole, and frog—these are the three stages of the frog's life cycle.

1. EGG

A frog egg does not have a hard shell. Instead it is covered by soft jelly. The egg rests in water or a wet place on land. Inside the egg a little animal, called a tadpole, starts growing.



Frog Eggs

The tadpole grows and grows, and after many days it is too big to live in the egg. Then it hatches.

2. TADPOLE

The tadpole lives in water. Like a fish, it breathes with gills. It has no legs, and it has a tail that it moves to swim. It eats algae and plants.

Slowly the tadpole changes into a frog. It grows lungs and begins to breathe air instead of water. It grows two back legs and two front legs, and it climbs in and out of the water. Finally, its tail goes away, a little at a time, and then it is a frog.



Tadpole Growing Legs

3. FROG

The frog crawls or hops around on land and swims in water. It has lungs and breathes air. It has four legs and no tail. It does not eat plants. It eats insects, instead. As it eats more and more, it grows bigger.

When it is has grown to its full size, the female frog lays eggs. Then the story starts over. Tadpoles grow inside the eggs. The tadpoles hatch, and they slowly become frogs.



When the tail goes away, this tadpole will be a frog.



Egg



Tadpole



Frog



The Frog Life Cycle

Fill in the circle next to the correct answer.

1. What is the first stage in a frog's life?
 tadpole frog egg
2. What is the second stage in a frog's life?
 tadpole frog egg
3. What is one thing that a tadpole has that a frog does not have?
 tail lungs legs
4. What is one thing that a frog has that a tadpole does not have?
 gills tail lungs
5. What lays frog eggs?
 a tadpole a female frog a male frog
6. What is the last stage in a frog's life?
 egg frog tadpole