

EXPLANATION *frog & toad life cycle*

Frogs & toads go through a complete metamorphosis- The timeframe of development is dependent on species and environmental factors:

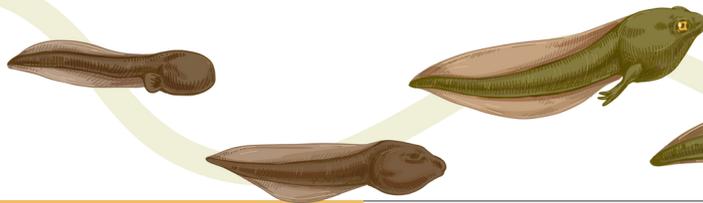
Spawn/ Eggs

- In wetlands & ponds, female frogs & toads lay thousands of gelatinous eggs. Eggs look clear with a black dot in the center, that after a few days look like a comma.
- Frogs lay egg masses and toads lay long ribbons of eggs
- Depending in the species, some eggs hatch in just a few days and in other species, it can take several weeks.



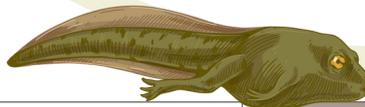
Tadpole/ Larval Stage

- Once the eggs hatch, the baby frogs are known as tadpoles.
- Tadpoles have a mouth, gills and a powerful tail for swimming. They do not have any limbs at this point.
- Each species of tadpole varies in color, shape and what they prefer to eat.
- On average, after 14 days, tadpoles develop into their next stage.



Froglet/ Toadlet

- First tadpoles develop their back legs and then their front, they change body shape and start to eat larger prey.
- Skin grows over their gills.
- Their tails shrink and are absorbed into the body.
- Once the gills and tail are gone, froglets quickly develop into tiny adults in about 24 hours.



Frog/ Toad

- Most new frogs and toads head out of their nursery areas and venture into the world.
- They are less reliant on water but must be careful to avoid desiccating or drying out.
- As mature adults, frogs & toads will return to the waters to reproduce. Males return first to serenade & entice females to the water.

