



Frogs And Toads

Frogs and toads are related. They are both amphibians, which mean they live part of their life in water and part on land. Amphibians are cold-blooded animals. They don't make their own body heat. They get warmth from the heat of the sun.

Life Cycle

Most frogs and toads lay eggs in water. The babies that hatch are called tadpoles and look like tiny little fish. They live in water and breathe with gills just like fish. It is amazing that soon their gills will disappear. They will grow lungs so they can breathe air on land. Next they will grow legs and arms. Later, their tail shrinks. When their tail is gone, they move onto land.

About Frogs

Frogs are famous for their ability to leap with their long, strong back legs. They leap to catch insects and other prey. A frog can catch an insect in an instant with its' long, sticky tongue. The eyes and nostrils of a frog are on top of the head. Frogs can see, smell and breathe while they're under water. In fact, they breathe through their skin while under water! Frogs can also be really loud. A male frog sings loudly to attract a mate.

Frogs vs. Toads

Do you know the difference between frogs and toads? The skin of a frog is smooth or slimy and a toad's skin is dry and bumpy. Toads live in typically dry places while frogs mostly live in wet places. The legs of frogs and toads are different too. A frog has long and strong back legs that are great for leaping. A toad has shorter back legs, better for walking. Since a frog lives mostly in wet places, their feet are webbed, perfect for swimming. A toad does not have webbed feet. A final difference between frogs and toads is how they lay their eggs. Frogs lay eggs in groups.

Staying Alive

Many animals like to eat frogs and toads as their meal. Frogs and toads have many adaptations. These help them survive when they are hunted by other animals. Some frogs are able to blend into their habitat. This allows them to become hidden from other animals who may want to eat them. Some frogs are even poisonous, simply touching their skin is deadly. Some toads and frogs can even trick their prey by puffing up to look bigger than they are to scare them away!

Frogs and Toads are Cool!

Frogs and toads come in many shapes, sizes and colors. You can find them in trees, in water, and on the ground. One thing is true-they're amazing animals!