

Rainbow Readers

Title: Amphibians

Word Study

Fill in the blanks using the words.

gills	mate	poison	species	tadpoles
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1. It is easy to find little tadpoles swimming in ponds in the summer.
2. This farm has several species of cows.
3. Some animals make loud noises to attract a mate.
4. You have to make sure to keep small children away from poison.
5. Fish have gills on either side of their bodies for breathing.

Reading Comprehension

A. Circle T for true or F for false.

1. Toads have smooth skin. T / **F**
2. Most amphibians lay their eggs in or near the water. **T** / F
3. Tree frogs sometimes look like they're flying. **T** / F
4. All salamanders have legs. T / **F**
5. Some salamanders are longer than children. **T** / F

B. Circle the correct word(s).

1. Caecilians are the (most well-known / **strangest**) amphibians.
2. Many frogs use their (**tongues** / legs) to catch their food.
3. A frog's webbed feet help it (**swim** / hunt) better.
4. The strawberry frog got its name because it (smells / **looks**) like a strawberry.
5. Pollution can get into an amphibian through its (mouth / **skin**).

C. Choose the best answer.

1. What does it mean if an animal is cold-blooded?

- a. Its blood is always cold.
- b. It cannot live in cold weather.
- c. It stays cool in the summer heat.
- d. Its body changes temperature with the weather.

2. Which is something the book says newts do to get away from predators?

- a. Swim away
- b. Jump away
- c. Break off their tails
- d. Find a place to hide

3. Which does a tomato frog NOT do when it is threatened?

- a. Get bigger
- b. Make its skin smell
- c. Change color
- d. Fill its body with air

4. Where can the axolotl salamander be found?

- a. In Mexico
- b. In Madagascar
- c. In the Indian Ocean
- d. All over the world

5. What is the biggest danger facing amphibians?

- a. Other amphibians
- b. Human beings
- c. Birds that eat them
- d. Poisonous animals

Summary

Fill in the blanks with the words.

metamorphosis	predators	tongues	rough	camouflage
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Animals that can live on land and water are called amphibians. There are seven thousand species of them in the world. Toads and frogs are well-known examples. They are very similar, but frogs don't have rough skin like toads. Newts and salamanders are also amphibians. They look like snakes with legs. Frogs often catch their food by using their tongues. Most amphibians lay their eggs in or near water. They look very different from adults when they are born. The change from a tadpole or larva into an adult is called metamorphosis. Amphibians have different ways of getting away from predators. Some are poisonous. Some use their webbed feet to swim away. Others hide using camouflage. They need these skills because they have many dangers. Birds, snakes, and other animals often eat them. However, their biggest danger comes from people. We pollute the water that they live in. We all need to work together to keep the world safe for amphibians.