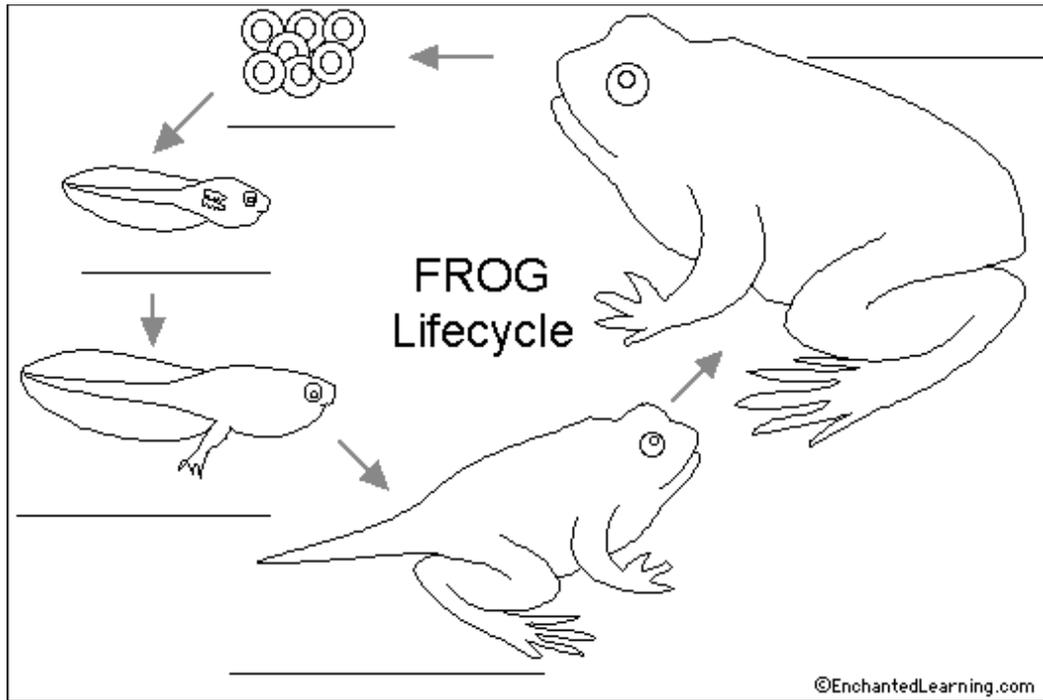


Material(s): Lifecycle of a frog worksheet

Lifecycle of a Frog

Tadpoles hatch from tiny eggs that are laid in masses in the water. The gill-breathing tadpole swims in the water. It eventually sprouts legs and absorbs its tail, becoming a froglet and then an adult. The adult breathes air and has no tail. After mating, the female lays eggs and the cycle begins again. *Read the definitions below, then label the frog life cycle diagram.*



egg - Tiny frog eggs are laid in masses in the water by a female frog. The eggs hatch into tadpoles.

tadpole - (also called the polliwog) This stage hatches from the egg. The tadpole spends its time swimming in the water, eating and growing. Tadpoles breathe using gills and have a tail.

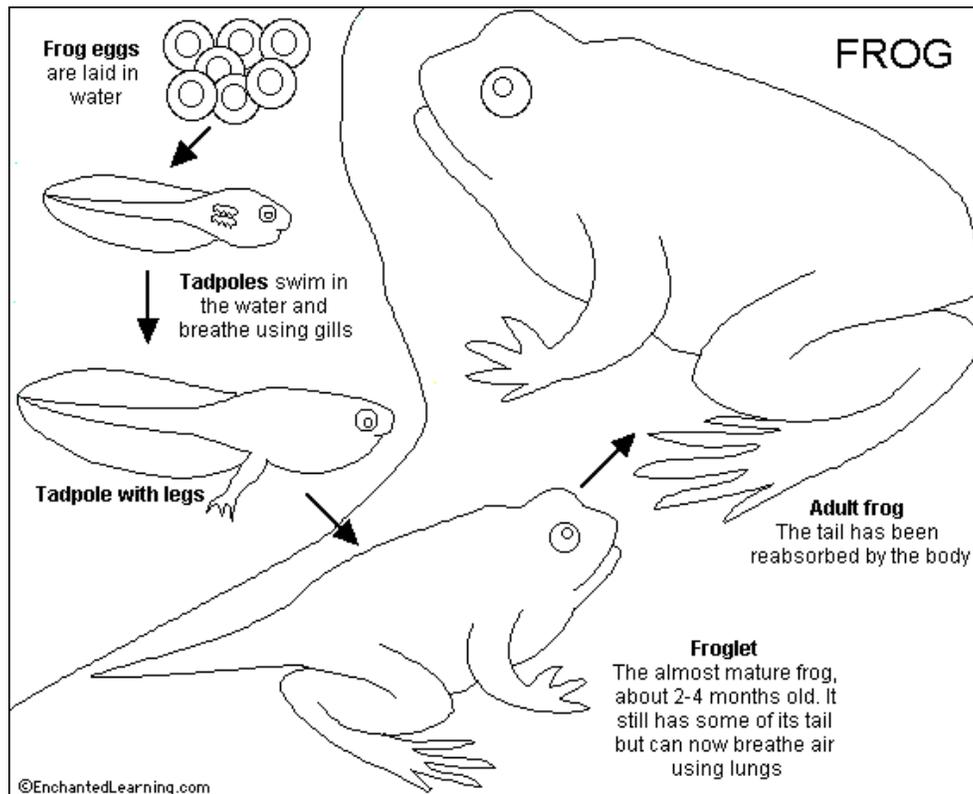
tadpole with legs - In this stage the tadpole sprouts legs (and then arms), has a longer body, and has a more distinct head. It still breathes using gills and has a tail.

froglet - In this stage, the almost mature frog breathes with lungs and still has some of its tail.

adult - The adult frog breathes with lungs and has no tail (it has been absorbed by the body).

Material(s): Lifecycle of a frog worksheet

Lifecycle of a Frog: Information & Answers



Frogs are amphibians, animals that spend part of their lives under water and the remainder on land. They have long, powerful jumping legs and a very short backbone. Most frogs have teeth (in the upper jaws only) but toads do not have any teeth.

Life cycle: Like all amphibians, frogs spend their lives near water because they must return to the water to lay their eggs. Frog eggs are laid in the water. When they hatch into tadpoles, they breathe with gills and swim using a tail. As they mature, they lose their tail, and they develop lungs for breathing air. In harsh climates, frogs bury themselves in sand and mud and hibernate (sleep very deeply) through the cold winter.

Diet: Frogs eat insects, catching them with their long, sticky tongue. They also eat small fish and worms.

Classification and Evolution: Kingdom Animalia (animals), Phylum Chordata, Class Amphibia (amphibians), Order Anura (Frogs and toads). The first true frogs evolved during the early Jurassic period, about 200 million years ago (during the time of the dinosaurs).