

Lesson Plan

Life Cycle Leapfrog

Book: *Life Cycle of a Frog*

Series: Life Cycles

Level: Pioneer

Objective

To help students understand the process of metamorphosis and the different stages of a frog's life cycle.

Supplies

- *Life Cycle of a Frog* book
- Access to the DK Findout! video "Life Cycle of a Frog":
<https://www.dkfindout.com/us/video/animals-and-nature/life-cycle-frog/>
- A large open area for an active game

Before the Activity

Read the *Life Cycle of a Frog* book out loud to students. Pull up the DK Findout! video in your web browser.

Activity

Some animals go through a process called metamorphosis, where they change from a young form to a completely different adult form. For example, butterflies go through metamorphosis. So do frogs.

As a class, watch the DK Findout! video. Then have students line up in teams of two. Explain that they will play Leapfrog to race across the open area. You will read out a statement about the frog life cycle. It is up to the students at the back of each line to determine if the statement is true or false. Each of those students should give a thumbs-up if the statement is true, and a thumbs-down if the statement is false. Students who are correct can advance by leapfrogging over their teammate. Students who are incorrect should stay at the back of their line. Keep reading statements aloud, directing those statements to the students at the back. Correct answers allow students to leapfrog forward. Incorrect answers mean students must stay in place. The first team to reach the other side of the open area wins the game.

Statements:

- Frogs start out as tadpoles. **(False)**
- A male frog lays eggs. **(False)**

- Tadpoles breathe by taking in water through their mouths and passing it over their gills. **(True)**
- A female frog lays eggs in a nest. **(False)**
- Frog eggs might float, stick to plants, or sink to the bottom of a pond. **(True)**
- An egg is a frog larva. **(False)**
- A tadpole is a frog larva. **(True)**
- Tadpoles have short, round bodies and flat tails. **(True)**
- Frogs can swim with their webbed feet. **(True)**
- Tadpoles have lungs and legs. **(False)**
- Tadpoles jump onto land and breathe air. **(False)**
- Frogs hatch from eggs fully formed. **(False)**
- A female frog lays eggs in water. **(True)**
- Adult frogs have gills for breathing. **(False)**
- Tadpoles breathe through tiny openings in the skin called gills. **(True)**
- Frogs are amphibians. That means they can live both on land and in water. **(True)**
- Frog eggs must remain wet to survive. **(True)**
- Tadpoles eat big insects. **(False)**
- Tadpoles live only underwater. **(True)**
- Adult frogs have tails and gills. **(False)**
- Female frogs usually lay 10–12 eggs. **(False)**
- Adult frogs have lungs and legs. **(True)**
- The process of a frog changing from egg to tadpole to adult is called metamorphosis. **(True)**
- Adult frogs eat insects. **(True)**
- Tadpoles are much bigger than adult frogs. **(False)**
- Tadpoles eat plants in the water. **(True)**
- Tadpoles can live on dry land. **(False)**
- Tadpoles can jump with their strong back legs. **(False)**
- Female frogs lay thousands of eggs. **(True)**
- A tadpole develops back legs before it develops front legs. **(True)**

Evaluation

Could students recall key details about the process of metamorphosis, and how that applies to the life cycle of a frog?

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational text, grades 1 and 2 (RI 1.1; RI 2.1), and the National Science Education Standards' Content Standard C, grades K–4.