The Life Cycle of a Frog

Grade 3

Name _____ Date _____

Remember: Read the passage **twice**: once to enjoy it, and once to look for details. Then answer the questions. Look back at the text to **prove** your answers.

Tip: Underline the sentence in the passage that helps you answer each question.

The Life Cycle of a Frog



All living things grow and change during their lives. The stages a living thing goes through are called its life cycle. A frog has one of the most amazing life cycles in nature.

Egg: A frog's life begins in water. In spring, a mother frog lays hundreds of tiny eggs in a pond. The eggs are covered in a clear jelly that keeps them safe and moist. A group of frog eggs is called frogspawn.

Tadpole: After about one to three weeks, tadpoles hatch from the eggs. A tadpole looks more like a tiny fish than a frog. It has a long tail for swimming and breathes through gills, just like a fish. Tadpoles eat algae and tiny plants.

Froglet: As the weeks go by, the tadpole changes. Back legs grow first, then front legs. Its lungs develop, so it can breathe air. Its tail slowly gets shorter. Now it is called a froglet.

Adult frog: After about twelve to sixteen weeks, the tail is gone and the froglet has become a frog. It can now hop onto land and catch insects with its long, sticky tongue.

When the adult frog is ready, it will lay eggs of its own, and the life cycle begins again.

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1. Check your understanding

Circle the best answer.

1. Where does a frog's life begin?

(a) In a tree
(b) In water
(c) Under the ground

2. What is a group of frog eggs called?

(a) Frogspawn
(b) A tadpole
(c) A nest

3. Which legs grow first on a tadpole?

(a) Front legs
(b) Back legs
(c) All at once

4. How does an adult frog catch insects?

(a) With its tail
(b) With its long, sticky tongue
(c) With its gills

2. Write your answer

Answer in complete sentences. Use details from the text.

1. **List the four stages of a frog's life cycle in order.**

2. **How is a tadpole like a fish?**

3. **Why do you think the life cycle is called a cycle?**

Answer Key

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1. Check your understanding

1. Where does a frog's life begin?

- a. In a tree
- **b. In water**
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2. What is a group of frog eggs called?

- **a. Frogspawn**
- b. A tadpole
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3. Which legs grow first on a tadpole?

- a. Front legs
- **b. Back legs**
- c. All at once

4. How does an adult frog catch insects?

- a. With its tail
- **b. With its long, sticky tongue**
- c. With its gills

2. Write your answer

Sample answers. Students' wording will vary.

1. **List the four stages of a frog's life cycle in order.**
   Egg, tadpole, froglet, adult frog.
2. **How is a tadpole like a fish?**
   It has a tail for swimming and breathes through gills.
3. **Why do you think the life cycle is called a cycle?**
   Because when the adult frog lays eggs, the stages start all over again, like a circle.