

ENGLISH PLUS

SHORT INTRODUCTIONS



AMPHIBIANS

LISTENING | TEXT | SENTENCE | WORD
PRACTICE WORKSHEET

NEVER STOP LEARNING

Amphibians

Listen Closely!

AMPHIBIANS

Say you are 1 . Can you put your hand in a glass of water and drink it through your 2 ? Of course you can't! But some animals can absorb water 3 way. These animals are called 4 .

Amphibians are very interesting creatures. They live a kind of double life. They spend the first part of their life in water and the second part on land. In 5 , the 6 amphibian comes from two Greek words that mean "both" and "lives."

An amphibian is an animal that has 7 , 8 skin. Amphibians are cold-blooded, which 9 they cannot make their own body heat. They get warm in the sun and cool off in the shade. The three main 10 of amphibians are frogs and toads, salamanders, and caecilians. All amphibians have backbones.

The three kinds of amphibians look very 11 from each other. Frogs and 12 have legs but do not have tails. 13 have 14 legs and long bodies ending in 15 . Caecilians do not 16 any 17 . 18 19 a lot like big earthworms.

There are more than 4,000 different species of 20 in the world. Nearly all 21 species are frogs or toads. Toads

differ 22 frogs in the roughness of their 23.
 Toads have bumpy skin, and frogs have smooth skin. Toads also have shorter legs than frogs.

The biggest amphibian found on 24 is the Japanese giant salamander. It can grow to be longer than 5 25, or 1.5 meters. Tiny frogs, 26 as the gold frog, are only about 0.4 inch, or about 1 27) long.

Most amphibians 28 out as larvae. Larvae 29 30 different 31 adult amphibians. Frog and 32 larvae are sometimes called pollywogs or tadpoles. These larvae look more 33 fish. They 34 underwater and have a tail that they use for swimming. They 35 through gills to get oxygen from the water.

An amphibian's body 36 completely when it 37 from a larva to a 38. This kind of change is 39 metamorphosis. Most 40 41 have lungs for 42 instead of 43. Some 44 both lungs and gills.

Full-grown amphibians have legs for moving about on land. Frogs and toads have strong hind 45 for jumping. 46 salamanders 47 four short 48 and a long, 49 tail. The tail 50 them keep their balance while walking and pushes them forward while swimming. Caecilians never grow legs. They use their hard 51 as battering rams when they burrow in the 52. In water, they swim as eels do, by 53 54 wormlike 55

back and forth.

Amphibians can “drink” through their skin. The skin of an adult amphibian is able to absorb water from its surroundings.

56 57 do not even swallow water. Their skin soaks up as much as they 58 .

Amphibians also breathe 59 their skin. Their 60 takes in oxygen as well as 61 . Most grown-up amphibians get oxygen 62 both their lungs and their skin. But 63 salamanders get all their oxygen through 64 skin. They do not even have lungs or gills.

Slimy stuff 65 mucus covers an amphibian’s 66 . The mucus keeps just the 67 amount of salt and water in the amphibian. In some 68 the mucus is poisonous, which helps keep predators from eating the amphibian.

69 amphibians have 70 eyesight and hearing, and some do not. Most frogs and toads can hear well. Salamanders, caecilians, and some frogs can only sense 71 in the ground or water.

Frogs have 72 eyesight. They see through two 73 eyes 74 stick out 75 76 heads. 77 caecilians are 78 79 .

All amphibians can smell and 80 pretty well. Caecilians use feelers on their heads. Amphibians 81 a 82 in their mouths called Jacobson’s organ that helps

them 83 and taste the world around them.

Amphibians that 84 in cold 85 spend most of their time trying to 86 wet and warm. In hot 87, they try to keep wet and cool and usually come out only at night. During the day, they stay 88 rocks or logs or in the ground.

89 hibernate 90 cold 91.
92 become 93 in hot places during the
94.

95 all grown-up amphibians are meat 96.
 Frogs and salamanders have 97 tongues. They flick out their tongues to 98 insects, spiders, and other animals. Caecilians have sharp teeth for grabbing their 99.

Amphibians mate when it is rainy outside. They gather in groups to find mates. Some male salamanders show bright colors to get the attention of females. Male frogs 100 out to females. Their call sounds like this: “ribbet.” Female amphibians lay eggs in water or wet places on land. Larvae 101 out of the eggs.

No one 102 how long amphibians live in the wild. Some captured toads have 103 30 years.

Amphibians live 104 except Antarctica.

105 can be found in 106, rain forests, evergreen forests, deserts, and mountain areas. Caecilians live only in the tropics.

Amphibians need water to breed and have 107. So most

of them live near ponds, swamps, or 108 . A few
109 can 110 find 111 in
deserts. Some 112 frogs 113 in a dry part of
Australia called the 114 . They 115 and feed
only 116 it rains, which is not very 117 .
Amphibians have lived on 118 for more 119
300 million 120 . But recently, something
121 has been happening to 122 .
Amphibians are disappearing. There are fewer and fewer amphibians in
123 parts of the world, including North America, South
America, and Australia. No one 124 why.
Some 125 have also been found 126 extra
127 or 128 strange 129 .
130 are working 131 to find out what is
happening to the amphibians.

Pick the Headings

Choose the correct headings to fill in the blanks in the text below:

THE DOUBLE LIFE

DISAPPEARING AMPHIBIANS

KINDS OF AMPHIBIANS

AN AMPHIBIAN'S LIFE

WHERE AMPHIBIANS LIVE

AMAZING SKIN

SENSING THE WORLD

AMPHIBIANS

Say you are thirsty. Can you put your hand in a glass of water and drink it through your skin? Of course you can't! But some animals can absorb water this way. These animals are called amphibians.

Amphibians are very interesting creatures. They live a kind of double life. They spend the first part of their life in water and the second part on land. In fact, the word amphibian comes from two Greek words that mean "both" and "lives."

1

An amphibian is an animal that has moist, hairless skin. Amphibians are cold-blooded, which means they cannot make their own body heat. They get warm in the sun and cool off in the shade. The three main

groups of amphibians are frogs and toads, salamanders, and caecilians. All amphibians have backbones.

The three kinds of amphibians look very different from each other. Frogs and toads have legs but do not have tails. Salamanders have short legs and long bodies ending in tails. Caecilians do not have any legs. They look a lot like big earthworms.

There are more than 4,000 different species (kinds) of amphibians in the world. Nearly all amphibian species are frogs or toads. Toads differ from frogs in the roughness of their skin. Toads have bumpy skin, and frogs have smooth skin. Toads also have shorter legs than frogs.

The biggest amphibian found on Earth is the Japanese giant salamander. It can grow to be longer than 5 feet (1.5 meters). Tiny frogs, such as the gold frog, are only about 0.4 inch (about 1 centimeter) long.

2

Most amphibians start out as larvae. Larvae look totally different from adult amphibians. Frog and toad larvae are sometimes called pollywogs or tadpoles. These larvae look more like fish. They live underwater and have a tail that they use for swimming. They breathe through gills to get oxygen from the water.

An amphibian's body changes completely when it goes from a larva to a grown-up. This kind of change is called metamorphosis. Most grown-up amphibians have lungs for breathing instead of gills. Some have both lungs and gills.

Full-grown amphibians have legs for moving about on land. Frogs and

toads have strong hind (back) legs for jumping. Most salamanders have four short legs and a long, strong tail. The tail helps them keep their balance while walking and pushes them forward while swimming. Caecilians never grow legs. They use their hard heads as battering rams when they burrow in the soil. In water, they swim as eels do, by wiggling their wormlike bodies back and forth.

3

Amphibians can “drink” through their skin. The skin of an adult amphibian is able to absorb water from its surroundings. Most amphibians do not even swallow water. Their skin soaks up as much as they need.

Amphibians also breathe through their skin. Their skin takes in oxygen as well as water. Most grown-up amphibians get oxygen through both their lungs and their skin. But some salamanders get all their oxygen through their skin. They do not even have lungs or gills.

Slimy stuff called mucus covers an amphibian’s skin. The mucus keeps just the right amount of salt and water in the amphibian. In some species the mucus is poisonous, which helps keep predators from eating the amphibian.

4

Some amphibians have good eyesight and hearing, and some do not. Most frogs and toads can hear well. Salamanders, caecilians, and some frogs can only sense vibrations in the ground or water.

Frogs have great eyesight. They see through two bulging eyes that stick out from their heads. Most caecilians are totally blind.

All amphibians can smell and taste pretty well. Caecilians use feelers on their heads. Amphibians have a place in their mouths called Jacobson's organ that helps them smell and taste the world around them.

5

Amphibians that live in cold places spend most of their time trying to keep wet and warm. In hot places, they try to keep wet and cool and usually come out only at night. During the day, they stay under rocks or logs or in the ground.

Amphibians hibernate (become inactive) during cold winters. They become inactive in hot places during the summer.

Almost all grown-up amphibians are meat eaters. Frogs and salamanders have sticky tongues. They flick out their tongues to catch insects, spiders, and other animals. Caecilians have sharp teeth for grabbing their prey.

Amphibians mate when it is rainy outside. They gather in groups to find mates. Some male salamanders show bright colors to get the attention of females. Male frogs call out to females. Their call sounds like this: "ribbet." Female amphibians lay eggs in water or wet places on land. Larvae hatch out of the eggs.

No one knows how long amphibians live in the wild. Some captured toads have lived 30 years.

6

Amphibians live everywhere except Antarctica. They can be found in grasslands, rain forests, evergreen forests, deserts, and mountain

areas. Caecilians live only in the tropics.

Amphibians need water to breed and have babies. So most of them live near ponds, swamps, or streams. A few species can even find water in deserts. Some burrowing frogs live in a dry part of Australia called the outback. They breed and feed only when it rains, which is not very often.

7

Amphibians have lived on Earth for more than 300 million years. But recently, something scary has been happening to them. Amphibians are disappearing. There are fewer and fewer amphibians in many parts of the world, including North America, South America, and Australia. No one knows why.

Some amphibians have also been found with extra legs or other strange problems. Scientists are working hard to find out what is happening to the amphibians.

What's Wrong?

In each line of text below there is one word that has been misspelled. Find the misspelled words and correct them.

AMPHIDIANS

Say yuo are thirsty. Can you put your hand in a glass of water and drink it through youre skin? Of course you can'd! But some animals can absorb watre this way. These animals are called amfibians.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Amphibians our very interesting creatures. They liv a kind of double life. They spend the first part of their life inn water and the second part on land. In fact, the word amphibian comes frome two Greek words that main "both" and "lives."

7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____

KINDS OF AMPHIBIANSE

Ane amphibian is an animal that has moist, hairless skin. Amphibians are cold-bloodd, wich means they cannot make their own body heat. They get warm in tha sun and cool off in the chade. The three main groups of amphibians are frogs and toads, salamandirs, and caecilians. All amphibians have backkbones.

12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
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17. _____
18. _____
19. _____

The three kinds of amphibians look very diffrent frome each other. Frogs and toads have legs but do not have tails. Salamanders have chort legs and long bodeis ending in tails. Caecilians do not have any legl. They look a lot like big earthwerms.

20. _____
21. _____
22. _____
23. _____
24. _____
25. _____

There are more then 4,000 different species (kinds) of amfibians in the world. Nearly all amphibian species are frogs ore toads. Toads differ from frogs inn the roughness of their skin. Toads have bumpy skin, and frrogs have smooth skin. Toads also have shorter legs than frrogs.

26. _____
27. _____
28. _____
29. _____
30. _____
31. _____

The biggest amphibian found one Earth is the Japanese giant salamander. It can groe to be longer than 5 feet (1.5 metrs). Tiny frogs, such

32. _____
33. _____
34. _____

as the gold frog, are only about 0.4 inch (about 1 centimeter) long.

35. _____
36. _____

THE DOUBLEE LIFE

Most amphibians start out as larvae. Larvae look totally different from adult amphibians. Frog and toad larvae are sometimes called pollywogs or tadpoles. These larvae look more like fish. They live underwater and have a tail that they use for swimming. They breathe through gills to get oxygen from the water.

37. _____
38. _____
39. _____
40. _____
41. _____
42. _____
43. _____
44. _____

An amphibian's body changes completely when it goes from a larva to a grownup. This kind of change is called metamorphosis. Most grown-up amphibians have lungs for breathing instead of gills. Some have both lungs and gills.

45. _____
46. _____
47. _____
48. _____
49. _____

Full-grown amphibians have legs for moving about on land. Frogs and toads have strong hind (back) legs for jumping. Most salamanders have four short legs and a long, strong tail. The tail helps them keep their balance while walking and pushes them forward while swimming. Caecilians never grow legs. They use their hard heads as battering rams when they burrow in the soil. In water, they swim as eels do, by wiggling their wormlike bodies back and forth.

50. _____
51. _____
52. _____
53. _____
54. _____
55. _____
56. _____
57. _____
58. _____
59. _____

AMAZING SKIN

Amphibians can "drink" through their skin. The skin of an adult amphibian is able to absorb water from its surroundings. Most amphibians do not even swallow water. Their skin soaks up as much as they need.

60. _____
61. _____
62. _____
63. _____
64. _____
65. _____

Amphibians also breathe through their skin. Their skin takes in oxygen as well as water. Most grown-up amphibians get oxygen through both their lungs and their skin. But some salamanders get all their oxygen through their skin. They do not even have lungs or gills.

66. _____
67. _____
68. _____
69. _____
70. _____
71. _____

Slimy stuff called mucus covers an amphibian's skin. The mucus keeps just the right amount off

72. _____
73. _____

salt and water inn the amphibian. In some species	74.
the mucus is poisonos, which helps keep	75.
predators frome eating the amphibian.	76.
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SENSINJ THE WORLD	77.
Some amphibians have good eyesight end	78.
hearing, end some do not. Most frogs and toads	79.
can hair well. Salamanders, caecilians, and some	80.
frogs can only cence vibrations in the ground or	81.
watre.	82.
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Frogs have great eyesit. They see through two	83.
bulging eyese that stick out from their heads.	84.
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All amphibians kan smell and taste pretty well.	86.
Caecilians use feelers on they're heads. Amphibians	87.
have a place inn their mouths called Jacobson's	88.
ergan that helps them smell and taste the world	89.
arond them.	90.
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AN AMPHIBIANE'S LIFE	91.
Amfibians that live in cold places spend most	92.
off their time trying to keep wet and warm. In hot	93.
placces, they try to keep wet and cool and usually	94.
come out only at night. During the day, they stay	95.
under rocks or logs or inn the ground.	96.
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Amphibiens hibernate (become inactive) during	97.
cold winters. They become inactive in hot plates	98.
during tha summer.	99.
<hr/>	
Almoste all grown-up amphibians are meat eaters.	100.
Frogs and salamandrs have sticky tongues.	101.
They flick out their tongoos to catch insects,	102.
spiders, and othre animals. Caecilians have sharp	103.
teeth for grabbng their prey.	104.
<hr/>	
Amphibians mate when it is raine outside. They	105.
gather inn groups to find mates. Some male	106.
salamanders show bright colors too get the	107.
attention of females. Male froggs call out to	108.
females. Their call sounds lik this: "ribbet."	109.
Female amphibiens lay eggs in water or wet	110.
places on land. Larvae hatch out of tha eggs.	111.
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No one knows how long amphibians live in the wild. Some captured toads have lived 30 years.	112.
	113.
WHERE ARE AMPHIBIANS FOUND	114.
Amphibians live everywhere except Antarctica.	115.
They can be found in grasslands, rain forests, evergreen forests, deserts, and mountain areas.	116.
Caecilians live only in the tropics.	117.
	118.
Amphibians need water to breed and have babies. So most of them live near ponds, swamps, or streams. A few species can even find water in deserts. Some burrowing frogs live in a dry part of Australia called the outback. They breed and feed only when it rains, which is not very often.	119.
	120.
	121.
	122.
	123.
	124.
	125.
DISAPPEARING AMPHIBIANS	126.
Amphibians have lived on Earth for more than 300 million years. But recently, something scary has been happening to them. Amphibians are disappearing. There are fewer and fewer amphibians in many parts of the world, including North America, South America, and Australia. No one knows why.	127.
	128.
	129.
	130.
	131.
	132.
	133.
Some amphibians have also been found with extra legs or other strange problems. Scientists are working hard to find out what is happening to the amphibians.	134.
	135.
	136.
	137.

What's Missing?

A number of words have been removed from each sentence and listed below the sentence. Use the listed words to fill the blanks in the sentence.

1. The _____ of _____ look very different from _____ other. Frogs and toads have legs but do not have tails. Salamanders have short legs and _____ bodies _____ tails. Caecilians _____ not have any legs. They look a lot like big earthworms.

A. THREE B. EACH C. ENDING D. LONG E. IN F. DO G. KINDS H. AMPHIBIANS

2. Say you are _____. Can you put your hand in _____ glass of _____ and drink _____ your skin? Of course you can' _____! But some animals can absorb water this way. These _____ called amphibians.

A. IT B. THROUGH C. ARE D. A E. T F. THIRSTY G. WATER H. ANIMALS

3. Full-grown amphibians have legs for moving about on land. Frogs and toads have strong hind legs for jumping. Most salamanders _____ four _____ legs and a long, strong _____. _____ tail helps them keep their _____ while walking and pushes them forward while swimming. Caecilians never grow legs. They use their hard _____ battering rams when they burrow in the soil. In water, they swim as eels do, by wiggling _____ wormlike bodies back and forth.

A. TAIL B. BALANCE C. HAVE D. THEIR E. SHORT F. HEADS G. AS H. THE

4. Amphibians can “_____” through their skin. The _____ of an _____ amphibian is _____ absorb water from its surroundings. Most amphibians do _____ even _____ water. Their skin soaks _____ as much as they need.

A. SKIN B. UP C. ADULT D. SWALLOW E. DRINK F. TO
G. NOT H. ABLE

5. _____ biggest amphibian _____ on Earth is _____ giant _____. It can grow to be _____ than 5 feet, _____ 1.5 meters. Tiny frogs, such as the gold frog, are only about 0.4 _____, or about 1 centimeter) long.

A. JAPANESE B. FOUND C. LONGER D. THE E. OR F.
SALAMANDER G. THE H. INCH

6. Amphibians live everywhere except _____. _____ be _____ in _____, rain forests, evergreen forests, _____, and mountain areas. Caecilians live _____ in _____ tropics.

A. THE B. THEY C. CAN D. ANTARCTICA E. ONLY F.
GRASSLANDS G. DESERTS H. FOUND

7. Amphibians that live in cold places _____ most of their time trying _____ keep wet and _____. In hot places, they try _____ keep wet and cool _____ usually come out only at _____. During the day, they stay under rocks _____ logs or in _____ ground.

A. SPEND B. NIGHT C. WARM D. OR E. THE F. TO G.
TO H. AND

8. There are more than 4,000 different species of _____ in the world. _____ all amphibian species are _____ or toads. _____ differ from frogs _____ the roughness of their skin. Toads have bumpy _____, and frogs _____ smooth skin. Toads _____ have shorter legs than frogs.

A. AMPHIBIANS B. NEARLY C. TOADS D. ALSO E. SKIN
F. FROGS G. HAVE H. IN

9. Some amphibians have good eyesight and hearing, and some do not. Most frogs and toads can _____ . Salamanders, _____ , and some _____ only sense vibrations _____ or water.
- A. CAECILIANS B. CAN C. THE D. FROGS E. IN F. HEAR
G. GROUND H. WELL
10. _____ all grown-up amphibians are meat _____. Frogs and salamanders have sticky tongues. They flick out their _____ to catch insects, spiders, and other animals. Caecilians _____ sharp _____ for _____ .
- A. PREY B. TEETH C. HAVE D. TONGUES E. THEIR F. EATERS
G. ALMOST H. GRABBING
11. Amphibians also breathe through their skin. Their skin takes in _____ as well as water. Most grown-up amphibians _____ oxygen through both _____ and their _____. _____ some _____ get all their oxygen through their _____. They do not even have lungs or gills.
- A. LUNGS B. OXYGEN C. GET D. SKIN E. SKIN F. THEIR
G. SALAMANDERS H. BUT
12. _____ amphibians start out _____ larvae. _____ look totally different from _____ amphibians. Frog and toad larvae are sometimes called pollywogs or tadpoles. These _____ look _____ like _____. They live underwater and have a tail that they use for swimming. They breathe _____ gills to get oxygen from the water.
- A. ADULT B. AS C. THROUGH D. MORE E. FISH F. MOST
G. LARVAE H. LARVAE

Fun with Words

Find the hidden words. The words have been placed horizontally, vertically, or diagonally.

A	Y	X	Q	C	R	E	A	T	U	R	E	S	S	Y	T	A	D	P	O	L	E	S	N	W
H	S	G	N	I	D	N	U	O	R	R	U	S	E	T	L	E	G	P	W	R	P	K	S	U
P	U	Z	J	D	R	S	V	G	P	Y	R	C	I	R	S	T	O	R	O	X	P	I	A	S
U	A	I	C	E	P	E	U	F	U	X	Z	G	O	Q	E	I	N	Z	A	U	P	X	L	M
E	D	G	J	R	O	N	Z	M	C	B	U	K	N	L	A	H	T	E	G	B	H	Z	A	I
J	O	G	E	U	I	O	X	O	B	R	U	P	E	I	D	M	W	N	C	S	B	E	M	H
I	U	N	I	T	S	B	T	W	J	K	R	G	I	F	D	B	R	Y	E	E	Z	I	A	O
N	S	E	T	P	O	K	S	S	E	N	H	G	U	O	R	U	L	Z	R	I	R	N	N	Y
T	R	E	G	A	N	C	G	B	U	R	R	O	W	I	N	G	L	O	L	E	C	O	D	G
E	H	R	L	C	O	A	A	N	G	N	I	H	T	A	E	R	B	C	O	Y	V	S	E	D
R	M	G	L	T	U	B	W	I	I	S	R	O	T	A	D	E	R	P	N	D	V	E	R	A
E	K	R	I	W	S	O	N	A	Q	M	S	W	I	G	G	L	I	N	G	I	E	M	L	P
S	X	E	S	S	R	I	X	T	Y	G	M	N	W	O	R	G	L	L	U	F	O	D	N	Z
T	B	V	Q	M	E	R	O	N	A	X	W	I	F	U	N	D	E	R	W	A	T	E	R	W
I	T	E	L	X	G	Y	Y	U	G	M	N	E	W	H	I	B	E	R	N	A	T	E	G	C
N	A	I	C	B	M	C	E	O	I	U	O	D	R	S	C	A	E	C	I	L	I	A	N	S
G	K	M	U	J	P	N	K	M	D	E	S	M	R	O	W	H	T	R	A	E	M	K	Z	R
E	K	V	S	N	G	N	I	R	A	E	P	P	A	S	I	D	J	A	P	A	N	E	S	E
A	I	L	A	R	T	S	U	A	I	G	R	O	W	N	U	P	R	O	B	L	E	M	S	Z
M	G	R	A	S	S	L	A	N	D	S	V	J	T	H	A	I	R	L	E	S	S	Z	M	M

TADPOLES

CAECILIANS

EVERGREEN

COLD-BLOODED

ROUGHNESS

GROWN-UP

SCIENTISTS

SURROUNDINGS

BACKBONES

HIBERNATE

SWIMMING

AUSTRALIA

SALAMANDER

INTERESTING

CAPTURED

PROBLEMS

UNDERWATER

WORMLIKE

INCLUDING

EARTHWORMS

CREATURES

RECENTLY

MOUNTAIN

PREDATORS

DISAPPEARING

EYESIGHT

BREATHING

GRASSLANDS

WIGGLING

EVERYWHERE

JAPANESE

POISONOUS

FULL-GROWN

BURROWING

GRABBING

HAIRLESS