



- These cute amphibians start from a **little egg** (in a big batch called a **frogspawn**), which adult frogs lay in **early spring** when the weather is getting **warmer**.
- Eggs are usually hidden among **vegetation** for some protection from predators. After **1-3 weeks** in their eggs, they hatch as **tadpoles**, with **gills**, **mouth** and a **long tail** for swimming.
- Tadpoles can't go on land, so they stay in the water and feed on tiny chunks of vegetation.
- It takes **14 weeks** for tadpoles to grow into frogs: they grow back legs, front legs, their tails disappear, skin covers their gills, they develop lungs and eardrums and they start being able to eat insects.
- **24 hours** after they lose their tail (forever), their metamorphosis finishes and they're finally adult frogs!
- Adult frogs can go on land, eat bugs with their elastic tongues and don't need to rely on water as much.
- They stay in the shade so their skin doesn't dry out, and often return to ponds to stay wet. Female adult frogs go look for water to lay their eggs in, and the cycle starts again.



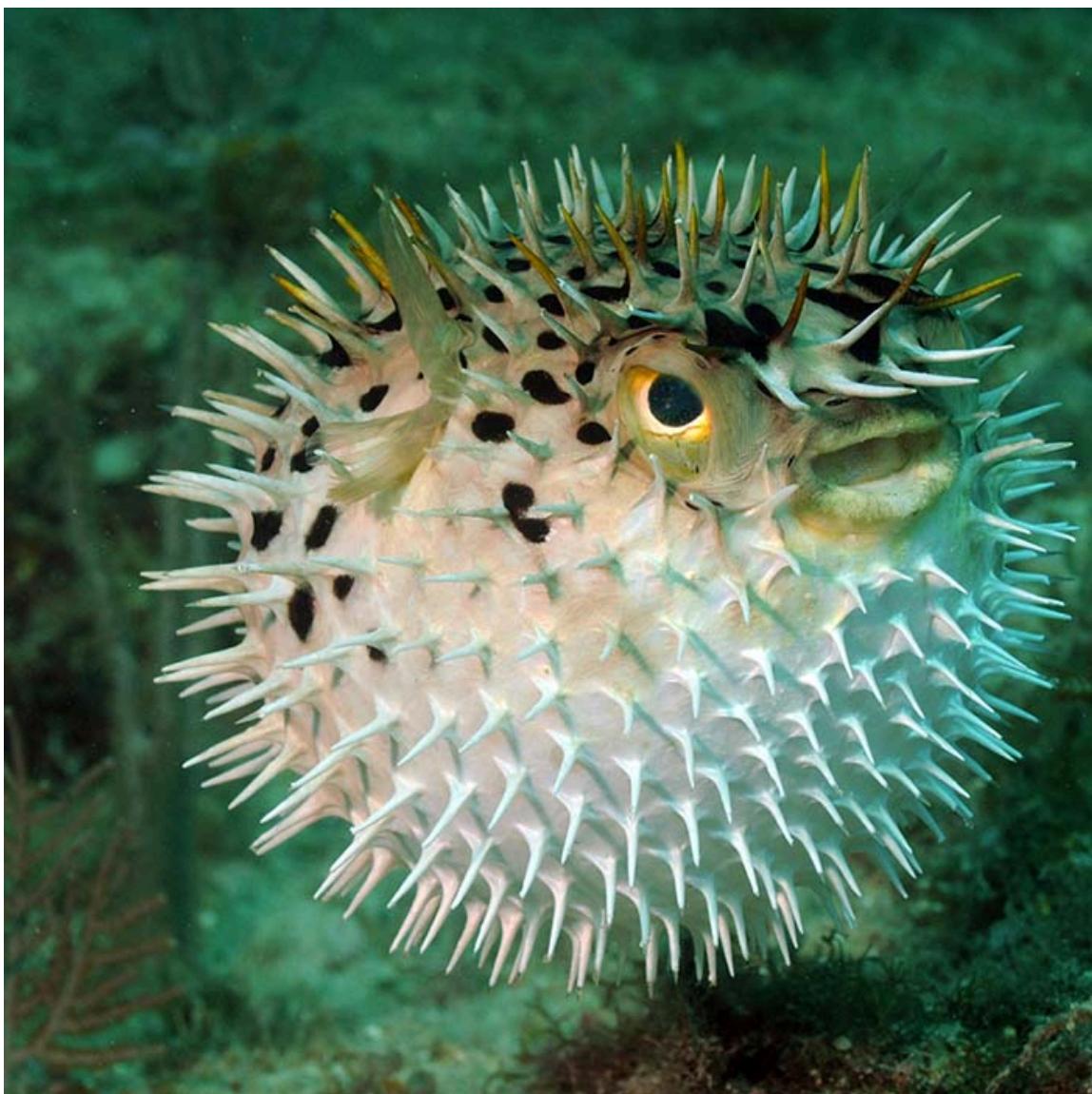
- Adult Monarch butterflies lay tiny eggs on **milkweed plants**. Out of the eggs come green and white striped **caterpillars**, which feed on milkweed leaves. (It's the only thing they eat!)
- The caterpillars grow by eating constantly and shedding (losing then regrowing) their skin. When they are ready to turn into a chrysalis, they attach themselves with **silk** to a **leaf or branch**, shed their skin and form a hard shell.
- The chrysalis starts out **green with shiny golden dots** and slowly becomes **white and transparent**. After **9-15 days**, the fully grown butterfly comes out. This whole process is known as **metamorphosis**; a butterfly's metamorphosis is actually **very similar to a frog's growth** from its egg to adult form.
- Adult monarch butterflies have **bright coloring** that warns predators not to eat them because they are **poisonous**. Their toxins (poison) comes from... milkweed! which they eat as caterpillars. They also **migrate** every fall when cold sets in to move to **warmer** climates in the south... like birds?!



- Camels are known for their big hump(s), which is a result of their **adaptation**. Adaptation is that an animal has changed some of its features to better survive in their habitat.
- Camels have adapted to their harsh desert environment for **millions of years** (adaptation takes a while!).
- They have **long eyelashes** and a **third eyelid** to keep sand out of their eyes and **wide feet** to distribute their weight evenly on the sand when they move. They have **thick fur** in sun-facing parts of their body for shade, and **thin fur** in other places to allow heat to easily escape their body so they can cool off.
- Their big hump is full of **fat** that they can use to keep their energy when there is no food or water.
- Since camels are mammals, they do not lay eggs; instead, the mother camel removes herself from their herd (her family) to **give birth** to a baby camel in a **private area**. The newborn **does not have a hump**, but there are some curves to indicate where it will grow. After **7 long years**, the newborn grows up into an adult.



- Bald eagles (the national bird of the USA!) lay **1-3 eggs per year**, which means that some of them end up having 40 kids throughout their lifetime! It usually takes about **35 days** for the eaglet to come out of their egg.
- To keep the egg warm, parents protect their eggs against the weather, sometimes sitting on them to keep them warm in their feathers, sometimes they **roll** to balance their overall temperature.
- To emerge from the egg, eaglets develop an **egg tooth**, which is essentially a tiny beak that will eventually crack the egg open.
- The eagle parents are really gentle and don't pressure their kids to learn early how to fly; eaglets are encouraged to take little steps in their flying journey; they are usually able to fly just a bit from the nest around 10-12 weeks of age.
- Furthermore, as they grow up, their appetite also gets worse and more demanding from the parents (poor adults!), but it results in chicks becoming almost as large as their parents by 8 weeks of age.
- Eaglets who manage to fly for the first time are said to **fledge**, which is when they begin learning to hunt. For the next few months, they stay in the area practicing their flying and hunting, and when they feel confident they can survive on their own, they fly away from the nest for good.



- Pufferfish! If you've seen one on TV or in real life, you'll know that they expand, growing spines to scare away predators.
- Normally, these fish are slow and easy to spot, but when a predator gets too close, pufferfish ingest water and air very quickly, making them several times larger than their normal size.
- Predators who still try to grab a bite out of these fish might not survive the poison in the spines, called **tetrodotoxin**.
- Like camels adapted to their desert environment, the pufferfish expansion is an **adaptation** so that these fish are able to defend themselves, ensuring they survive long enough to give birth to the next generation. As a matter of fact, there is enough poison in one pufferfish to kill **30 adult humans**
- Of course, being fish, they have to start small: at about... **2 mm**.



- Never seen this bird before? Either way, it's a Bird of Paradise (not because they live in paradise).
- A big part of life is to find a good mate, and these birds take it **VERY** seriously. In order to win over females, male birds have to learn **special mating dances** at young age, showcasing their **vivid** feather colours and skills.
- To learn these is no easy task: they have to practice often and watch adults carefully, just like we do when we're learning something new.
- Think of it like a dance competition at the Olympics. The judge is the female bird, and whichever male bird wins the gold medal, gets her. If we have time at the end, maybe we can see one in action? (believe me, they're good!)



- The great white shark is an animal most people are afraid of - and for good reason. They are some of the largest fish in the world and some of the biggest predatory sharks in the world.
- The reason I'm including them over other fish is for 1 simple fact. First, the baby shark is about 3-5 feet long (which is almost your height!). Because the baby is so good, it can already live and hunt on its own.
- Like other fish, baby sharks develop within eggs. Due to how long they have to carry the eggs, female sharks only start having babies when they turn 15, and have babies every 2 years, and give birth to about 5 pups every time.
- One very important thing to note is that humans are actually rarely bitten by sharks. Meanwhile, we humans are killing millions of sharks every year. (That's not good, especially for an animal with a high risk of going extinct because of its slow reproduction cycle).



- We discuss mammals, fish, birds, amphibians and insects. What's left? Reptiles. And what better reptile than turtles! Turtles have very long lives, some being able to live **more than 50 years** (which is a lot compared to other animals). As a matter of fact, some of the oldest turtles ever passed the age of 100!
- Their lives start within eggs, with a mother going on a **warm** beach and making a hole to lay her **80-200 eggs** in. After 60 days, the baby turtles come out of their eggs, but it can be faster or slower depending on the temperature of the sand (the hotter the sand, the faster the hatching).
- Also, warmer eggs become females, and cooler eggs become males.
- When they hatch, they usually have to crawl their way out of the sand and into the ocean... which is easier said than done. Whether at day or at night, birds have learned to recognize when they are going to hatch, so they wait until the baby turtles come out to start swooping in to get their meal.
- The lucky babies that don't get caught make it to the ocean to begin their life at sea, far far far away from the beach. They grow up in the ocean and after a few years, return to coastal areas. Females also regularly return to beaches to lay eggs.
- And how can we tell a turtle's exact age? Who knows!

# Fill in the Animal!

These next few pages have a bunch of activities for you to complete! There's fill in the blanks, true or false, a maze and a crossword! It's okay if you don't finish everything, **but do as much as you can!** If you think you have the correct answer, check with a leader!

Let's get started.

## Fill in the Blanks

Hint: the number of lines for a missing words/numbers is its number of letters/digits

- To attract females, a Bird of \_\_\_\_\_ has to perform \_\_\_\_\_.
- Mother turtles lay around \_ to \_\_\_ eggs.
- Camels and pufferfish are some examples of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Birds of Paradise have \_\_\_\_\_ colours of feathers to attract females.
- Camels have wide feet to distribute their \_\_\_\_\_ evenly on the sand.
- Baby great white sharks are \_ to \_ feet long.
- A big batch of frog eggs is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Tadpoles have \_\_\_\_\_, a \_\_\_\_\_ and a long \_\_\_\_\_.
- When tadpoles grow up, they lose their \_\_\_\_\_ and develop \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Monarch butterflies lay their eggs on \_\_\_\_\_ plants.

- Caterpillars grow by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. To attach themselves to a branch to turn into a chrysalis, they use \_\_\_\_\_.
- Camels have long \_\_\_\_\_ and a third \_\_\_\_\_ to keep \_\_\_\_\_ out of their eyes.
- A frog's tongue is considered to be \_\_\_\_\_.
- A chrysalis starts out \_\_\_\_\_ and turns \_\_\_\_\_.
- Monarch butterflies are \_\_\_\_\_, and every fall, they \_\_\_\_\_.
- Eaglets who manage to fly for the first time are said to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A newborn pufferfish can be \_ \_ \_ in size.
- Female sharks only start having babies when they are \_ \_ years old, and have babies every \_ years, and give birth to about \_ \_ \_ \_ every time.
- Warm turtle eggs turn into \_\_\_\_\_ and cooler turtle eggs become \_\_\_\_\_.
- When predators get close, a pufferfish ingests \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_ very quickly to expand.
- To keep eaglets' eggs warm, parents sometimes \_ \_ \_ the eggs to balance its temperature.
- Bald Eagles are the national bird of the \_\_\_!

### True or False?

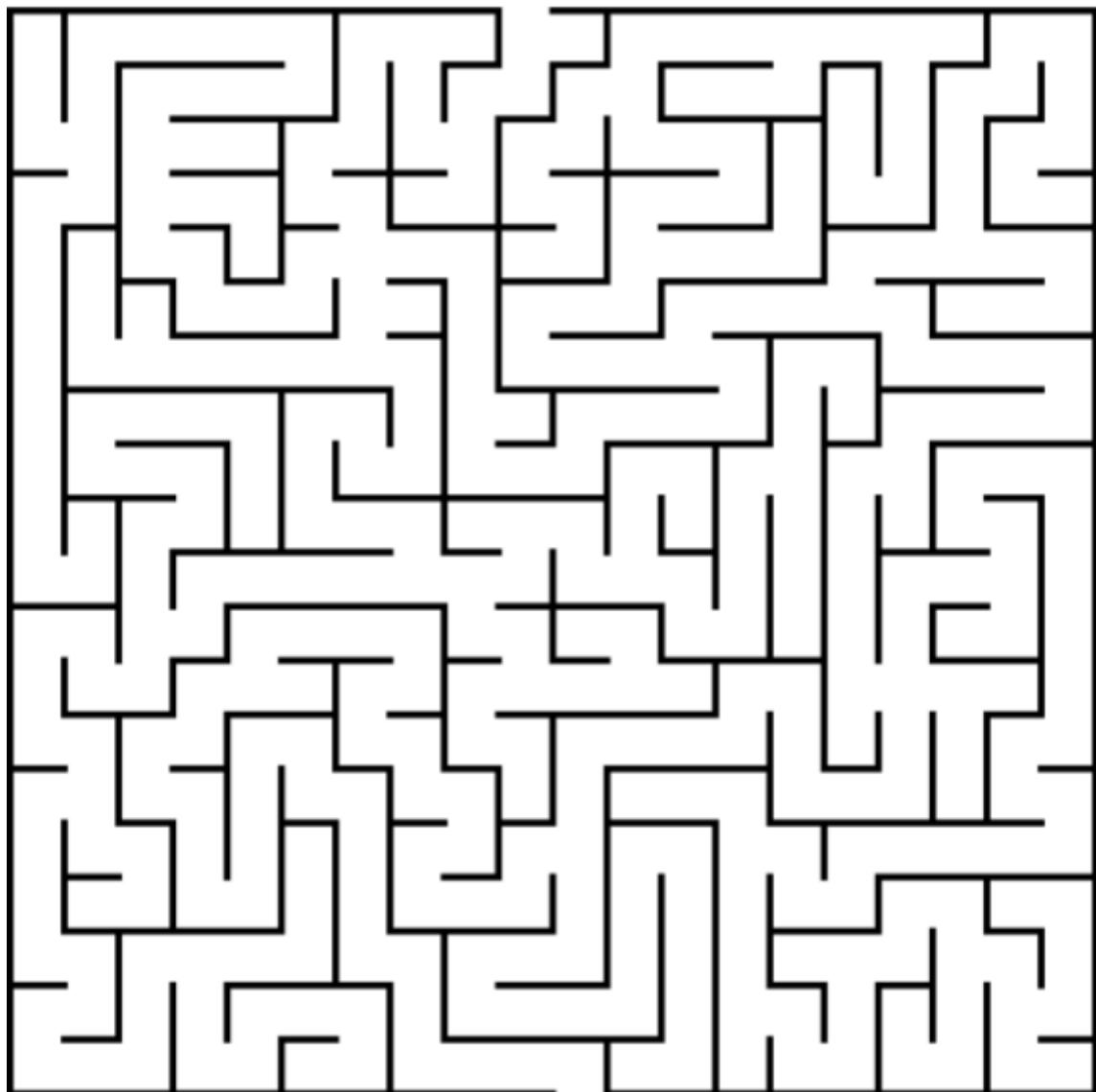
Circle the correct answer (T=True, F=False)

- Monarch butterflies are poisonous. T        F
- Milkweed plants are what make monarch butterflies poisonous. T        F
- Caterpillars eat milkweed **and** other plants. T        F
- Camels have thin fur in sun-facing parts of their bodies.  
T        F
- It takes 8 years for camels to grow up into adults. T        F
- Camels have 3 eyelids. T        F
- Camels like to give birth in public. T        F
- Eaglets, like other birds, are pushed out of the nest so they can immediately figure out how to fly. T        F
- Eaglets are as big as their parents around 5 weeks of age.  
T        F
- There is enough poison in a pufferfish to kill 25 adult humans. T        F
- Birds of Paradise learn dances when they are young by practicing hard and watching adults. T        F
- Baby great white sharks need their mothers to find food for them. T        F
- Humans kill less sharks than sharks kill humans. T        F
- Turtles can live to be more than 100 years old. T        F
- Baby turtles are born on the beach, grow up near the coast, and spend most of their time in the ocean. T        F

- A baby shark is as tall as Sochima (you're not allowed to ask Sochima his height!). T F
- A baby shark is as tall as Jeremy (you're not allowed to ask Jeremy his height!). T F
- There is no way to tell a turtle's exact age. T F

## Animal Maze

Help the egg grow up by getting through the maze!

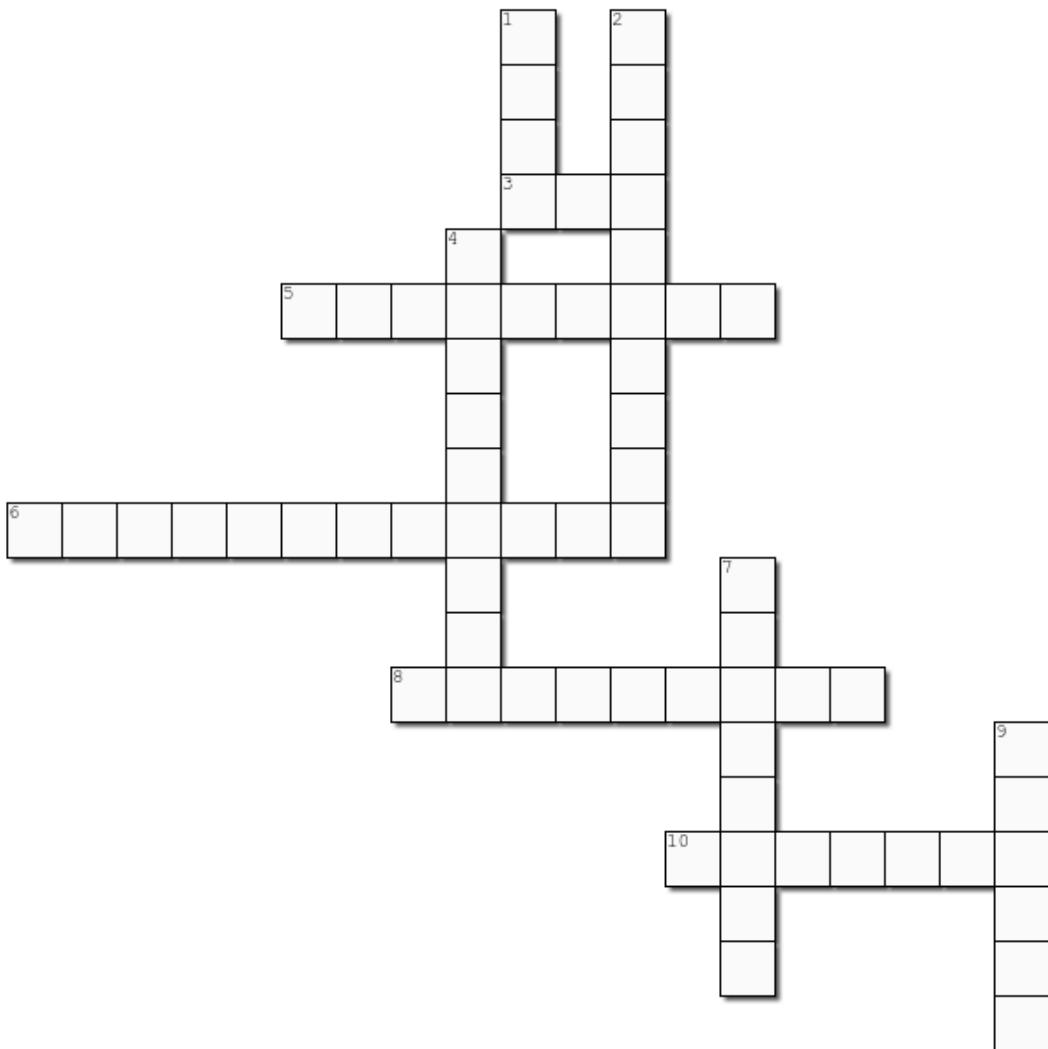


## Crossword

Every number has a definition. In the little boxes, write (vertical or horizontal) the letters of the word matching the definition.

## **Fill in the Animal**

Complete the crossword puzzle below



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

### **Across**

- 3. The name for a baby shark
- 5. A big batch of frog eggs
- 6. The poison of a pufferfish
- 8. A caterpillar's second stage
- 10. The type of animal of a turtle

### **Down**

- 1. A bump on a camel that contains fat
- 2. When an animal changes some of its features to better live in its environment
- 4. Tiny beaks eaglets in their eggs use to break out
- 7. The plant a caterpillar eats
- 9. What happens when an eaglet flies for the first time

This final page to recap to yourself what you've learned!

When you were reading the animal sheets...

**3 new things you learned**

**2 things you already knew**

**1 thing that made you sad, 1 thing that made you laugh, 1 thing  
that made you curious**