

Informational
Nonfiction

A Frog Grows and Changes

by Christy Steele



Macmillan/McGraw-Hill



Read to Find Out

How are baby frogs like other animal babies?
How are they different?

STRATEGIES & SKILLS AT A GLANCE

Comprehension

- Strategy: Visualize
- Skill: Problem and Solution

High-Frequency Words

- ball, head, never, should, shout

Phonics

- long /ī/ i, y, igh, ie

NATIONAL CONTENT STANDARDS

Science

- Life Science

Word count: 369**

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**The total word count is based on words in the running text and headings only. Numerals and words in captions, labels, diagrams, charts, and sidebars are not included.

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What Are Frogs?

Frogs are living things. Living things need food and water to live.

Like all living things, frogs grow and change.



◀ Tree frogs are tiny. They can fit in a plant.

There are many kinds of frogs.
They can be red, yellow, or green.
They can be little or big.

Most frogs live near water.
They like to be wet, not dry.
But some frogs live in trees or
in other plants.

A large, brown bullfrog is the central focus of the image, resting on a dark, wet rock in a pond. The frog's skin is textured and mottled with shades of brown and black. Its large, bulging eyes are visible. The pond is filled with numerous bright green lily pads, some of which are in the foreground, creating a sense of depth. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the pond and foliage.

◀ Bullfrogs are big.
They live in or
near water.

Can Frogs Do What You Do?

You are on the move all day. You run and shout or ride a bike. You skate, walk, and swim, too.



As children grow they run faster and ride bigger bikes.



Frogs can swim under the water. ⬆

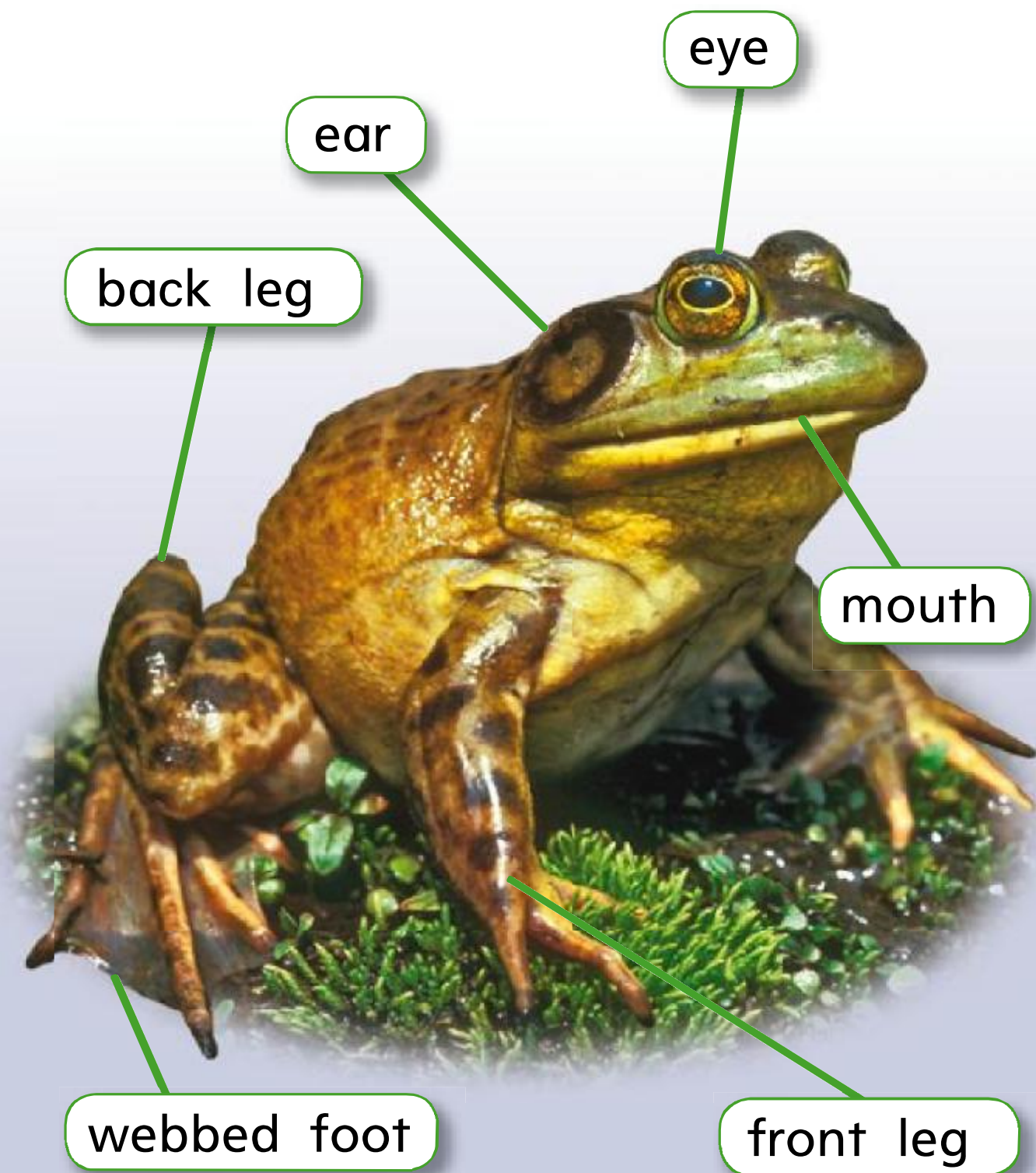
Frogs can swim in water. They can hop and jump high on land, too. But they can't fly.

Frogs have 4 legs. So frogs move in a different way than you do.

As frogs grow they can jump high to get from place to place. ➡



Look at the parts of a frog. Frogs are built to move on land and in the water.



Why can frogs jump and swim well? Frogs have 4 long legs to help them jump and swim. And webbed feet help frogs swim fast.

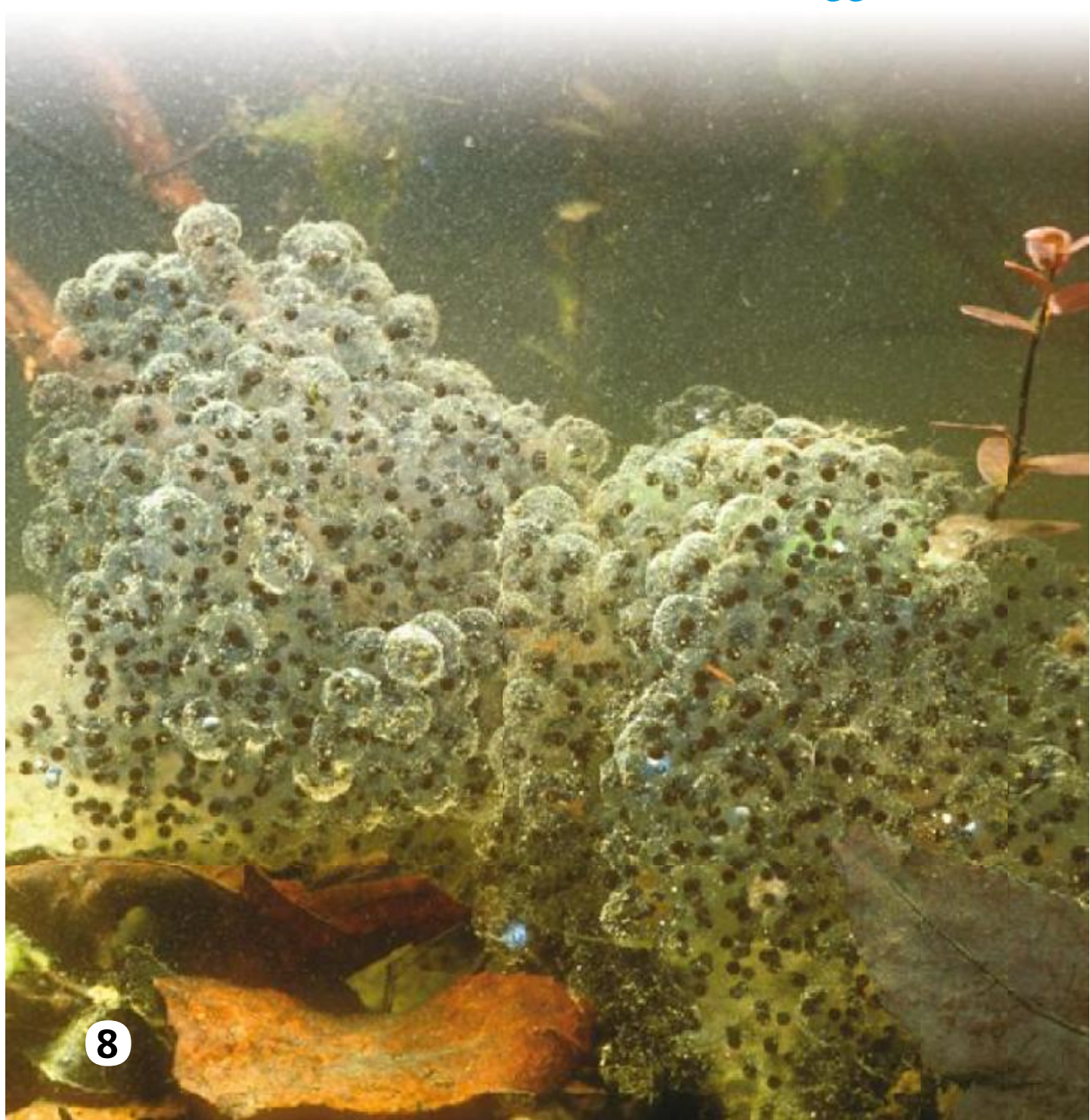
Frogs have very big eyes on their heads. They have better eyesight than we do.

Frogs hear well. But their ears are not like ours. Frogs have flat ears.

How Do Frogs Grow?

Frogs are animals. As they grow, they change. Frogs start life in the water.

↓ A mother frog may lay more than 100 eggs.



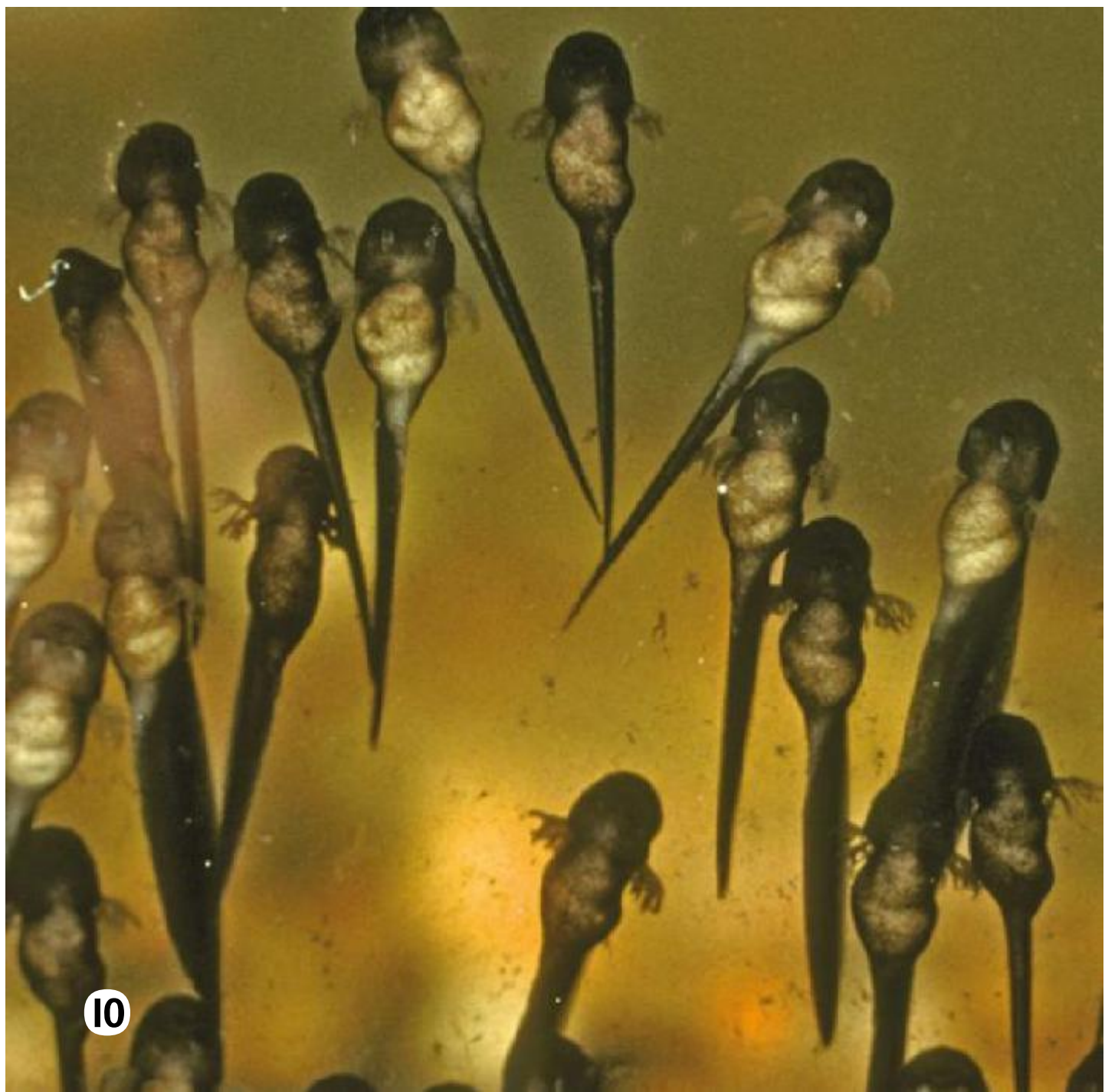


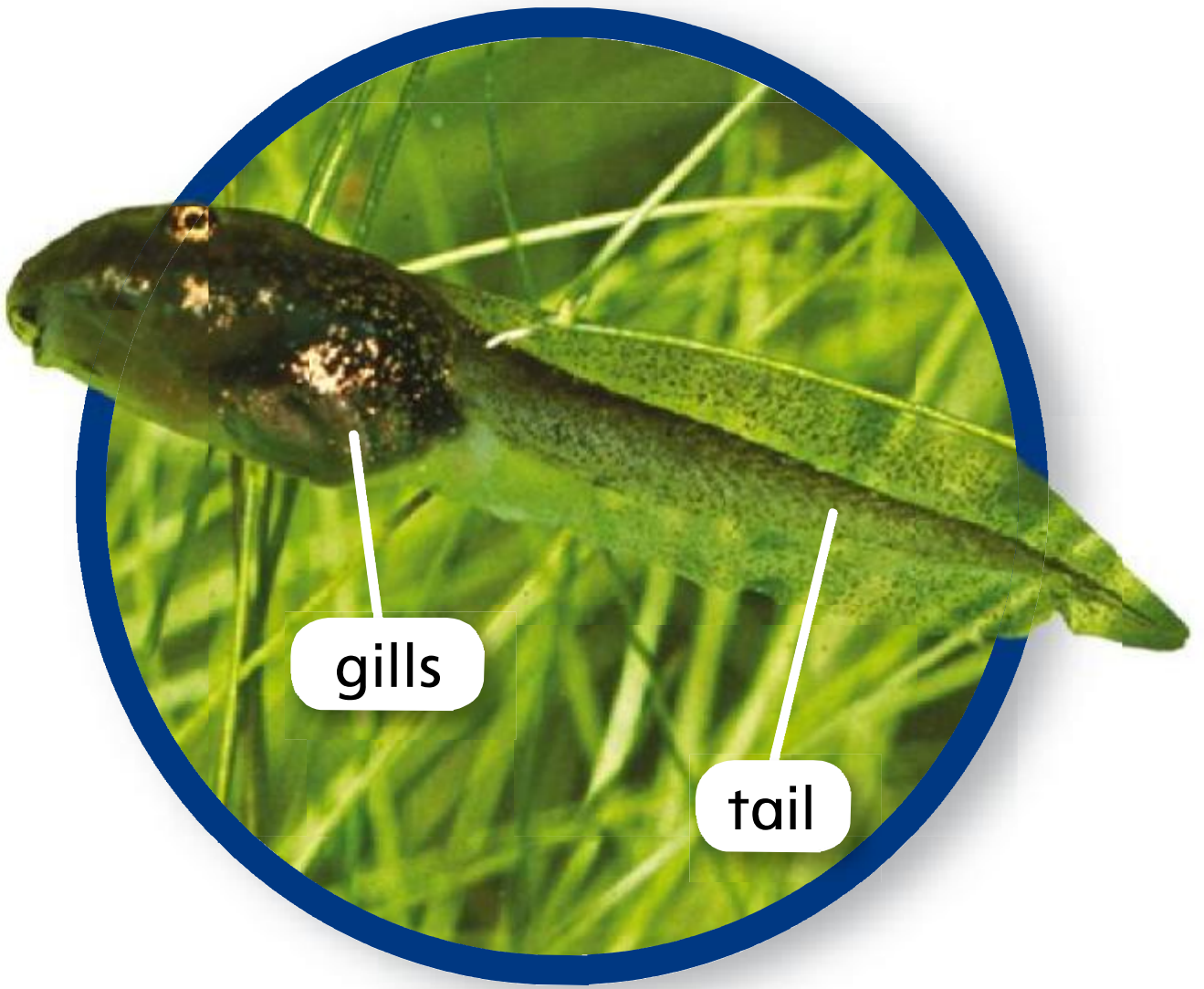
👉 Most frog eggs hatch in 3 to 25 days.

This is a frog egg up close. It is round like a ball. What should come out of the egg?

Tadpoles come out of the eggs.
Tadpoles are baby frogs.
But tadpoles do not look like
frogs at all.

⬇ Tadpoles look more
like fish than frogs.





Tadpoles live in the water. They have long tails to help them swim. They have gills to breathe in water. But tadpoles never stay small for long.



👉 Tadpoles will need legs to move on land.

Tadpoles get bigger as they grow. They grow back legs. They grow lungs. They will need lungs to breathe air on land.

Tadpoles grow and change.
They grow front legs and
their tails get smaller. They
are now called froglets.

⬇ The tadpoles tail will get much smaller.



Froglets change. They grow into frogs.

Frogs have no tails. They have 4 legs. They have lungs to breathe the air on land.

Froglets lose their tails. ➡





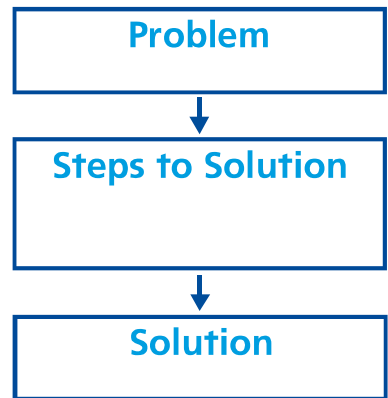
👉 The froglet has grown into an adult frog.

Frogs grow up. Many kinds live on land. But they will go in the water to lay eggs. Then new tadpoles will grow and change!

Comprehension Check

Retell

Use the pictures and the Problem and Solution Chart to tell a partner how a frog grows and changes.



Think and Compare

1. Why does a tadpole need to grow legs?
2. Have you ever seen a frog? Where? What did the frog look like?
3. Tell how another baby animal grows and changes. How is it like a frog? How is it different?

Literacy Activities



Write a Frog Riddle

Write a riddle about a frog. Use a pattern like this one.

What Am I?

I am a big cat. I have a mane. I roar very loud. What am I? (a lion)



Make Frog Cards

Cut a sheet of paper into four parts. Draw one picture in each part. Draw a frog egg, tadpole, froglet, and frog. Mix up the cards. Ask a partner to put the cards in order.



1.4 Week 4

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