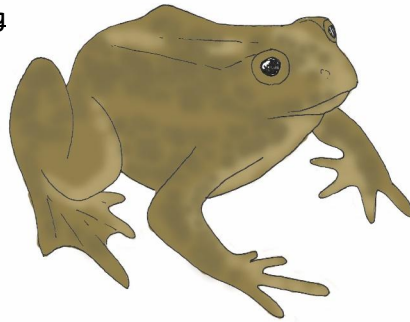
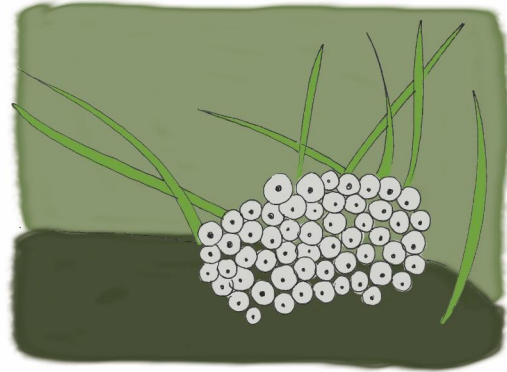


## The Common Frog



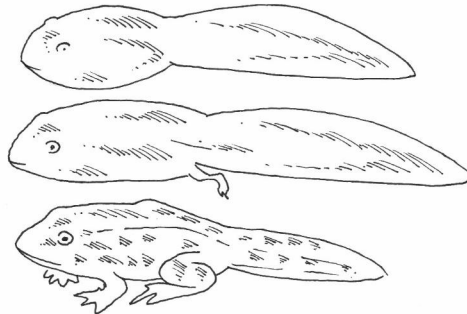
### Introduction

The Common Frog is part of the **amphibian** family. They are native to the UK. Female Common frogs can grow slightly larger than the adults. Males can grow up to 9cm long, and females 13cm in length. Most are a shade of olive-green or brown with random dark patches on them.



### How do Common Frogs grow?

Common Frogs lay their eggs in water in clumps. The clumps of eggs are known as **frogspawn**. There can often be thousands of eggs in the frogspawn. Only a small amount of the eggs actually develop into adults as ducks and fish like to eat the frogspawn. Organs and gills develop in the egg and after twenty-one days the egg hatches revealing a tadpole.



The tadpole has a long tail and needs to be well camouflaged to hide from other water animals that may try to eat it. It feeds off **algae** in the water. The tadpole lives for around five weeks before it starts to change. First, hind legs begin to grow, followed by front legs. As they grow bigger they start to eat bigger plants, frogspawn and other smaller tadpoles.

After around eleven weeks from when the egg was laid, the Common Frog emerges from the water. At this point its lungs and legs are fully developed and it no longer has a tail, but it still has more growing to do. Over time the Frog grows bigger and bigger. Adult Common Frogs eat worms and insects.

### Where can Common Frogs be found?

Common Frogs can be found anywhere near to a suitable breeding place. Common Frogs breed in shallow waters such as ponds, lakes and canals. In the winter they hibernate under rocks, in compost heaps or underwater in the mud.

### How can we help look after the Common Frog?

You can help the Common Frog **population** by creating a pond in your garden at home or school. Frogs need shallow waters with plenty of plants for food.

By Laura Bagglely

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Lifecycles – 3c – Text

## The Common Frog – Follow Up Work

What is the text about? (AF2)

What happens during the tadpole stage of development? (AF2/AF3)

Can you describe the timeline of events for the Common Frog? (AF2)

What are the pictures for? What are their purpose? (AF4)

What features of 'The Red Admiral Butterfly' text make it similar to 'The Common Frog'? (AF7)

Who else could this text be written for? Who would you recommend it to? (AF7)

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Lifecycles – 3c – Follow-Up Work