

Terrific Tadpoles!



Lately you may be spending more time exploring natural spaces - have you ever come across a tadpole on one of your explorations? Since we can't spend time learning about these fascinating creatures in person, I've compiled some fun things you can do at home:

- Let's start by understanding a frog's **life cycle** - is a tadpole in the beginning, middle or end? Afterwards you can color in your own **frog life cycle page** or create your own **life cycle spinner wheel**.
- Could you tell the difference between a frog and a toad if you found one in the wild? This **5-minute video** will help you! Once you know their differences, let's get to know the frogs & toads that are **native to Pennsylvania** - there are 17! Be sure to click on your favorites to learn more about them and listen to their calls! Have you ever heard frogs or toads in the wild?

- Here is a [short story](#) you can read about a girl named Julie who finds some tadpoles. When she found tadpoles she put them in a jar to observe them. The rules vary by state, but here in PA keep in mind that a fishing license is required in order to collect amphibian eggs and tadpoles, and even then there are limits to the amount you can collect, [as summarized here](#). We hope you will go looking for tadpoles and encourage you to consider leaving any eggs or tadpoles you find in their natural habitat and returning to visit them to record your observations in a [free printable journal](#).
- You might also like to create your own little creatures to keep at home, or to send to a friend! Try this [simple origami tadpole](#) or an [origami jumping frog](#). For an artistic *challenge* you might like to try make [frog tessellation art](#) (you may need a parent's help making the template!). We would love for you to share pictures of anything to create!
- Test your knowledge of frog facts with [this fun quiz](#) from NatGeo Kids. Or perhaps you'd rather [play a game](#) from NASA Climate Kids to try saving endangered frogs and butterflies! (there is an option for an online version or printable board game!)

Book Read Alouds

Looking for more? We know the library is closed for browsing right now, but here are a few great books about tadpoles & frogs that you can watch being read aloud right from home. Get comfy!

- Listen to a non-fiction book [all about frogs](#) by [Gail Gibbons](#). There are so many bonus facts at the very end too!
- In this video you can listen to a fictional tale by Sheridan Cain about a [Teeny Weeny Tadpole](#) that overcomes some challenges.
- To hear a story about a girl that watches tadpoles grow into frogs, check out [Growing Frogs](#) by Vivian French.
- Last but certainly not least, [I'm a Frog](#) by Mo Willems is sure to please!

Thank you for learning about terrific tadpoles with DCVA at home. We hope to see you at a live event someday soon!