

In most frog species the female is larger than the male.

There are over 4500 frog species in the world.

Tadpoles are herbivores but frogs are mainly carnivores.

Frogs do not lose their tails. They are absorbed by their body.

Frogs can not live in the sea or any salty body of water.

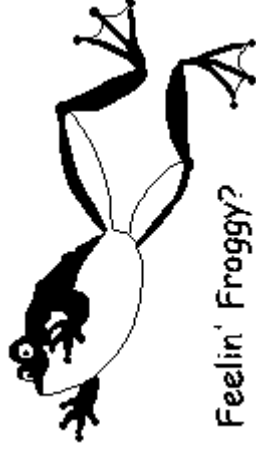
People who study amphibians and reptiles are called Herpetologists.

NZ's 'Hochstetter's' frog is the only endemic species to have webbed feet. Archey's frog, Maud Island, frog and Hamilton's frog live away from water and are poor swimmers.



# Did you know?

# know?



Feelin' Froggy?

## Frogs

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Frogs belong to a group of animals called amphibians.

Amphibian - Amphi = double bios = life  
This refers to the two stages of their life and habitat.

Webbed feet - some frogs have webbed feet to help them swim in the water.



Frogs have a strong sense of location - Using their sense of smell and instinct, frogs are able to return to their breeding site each year.

NZ's Hamilton's frog is the smallest endemic frog in NZ at about 47mm in length. The introduced Green & golden bell female frog grows between 60mm-104mm in length.

Not all frogs croak! All NZ endemic frogs do not vocalise except when disturbed.

NZ endemic frogs do not have external eardrums.

Different frogs use different methods to protect themselves from danger. They can either: play dead, use poison glands, use camouflage, puff up to look larger or hide in crevices, leaf litter or at the bottom of a pond.

Frogs are Ectothermic - Cold blooded. Their body temperature is the same as the air around them.

Hibernation - When the temperature is very cold, frogs will hibernate in a log, under vegetation or underground depending on the species.

Camouflage - Some frogs are coloured or patterned so they can blend in with their environment. Some frogs can change their colouring to match their environment.

Suction cups - Some frogs such as the Whistling tree frog has little suction cups on their fingers (digits) to help them climb.

New Zealand frogs are some of the most endangered in the world!

A frog drinks water through their moist semi permeable skin.

Three out of four of our endemic frogs lay a small number of eggs on damp ground and the male sits and watches over them as the tadpole develops into froglets and hatch.

NZ has four endemic and three introduced frogs.

The world's largest amphibian is the Japanese giant salamander which measures 1.8m long and weighs approximately 63kg.

One of the smallest amphibians is the poison dart frog. It measures 1.3cm long and weighs 28grams.

New Zealand celebrates frog week each year. New Zealand frog week this year is 24th-30th October 2005.

A group of frogs is called an "army"  
The Largest frog in the world is the Goliath frog from West Africa! It can grow 30cm long and weigh more than 3Kg.

Some frogs can live over 20 years.

