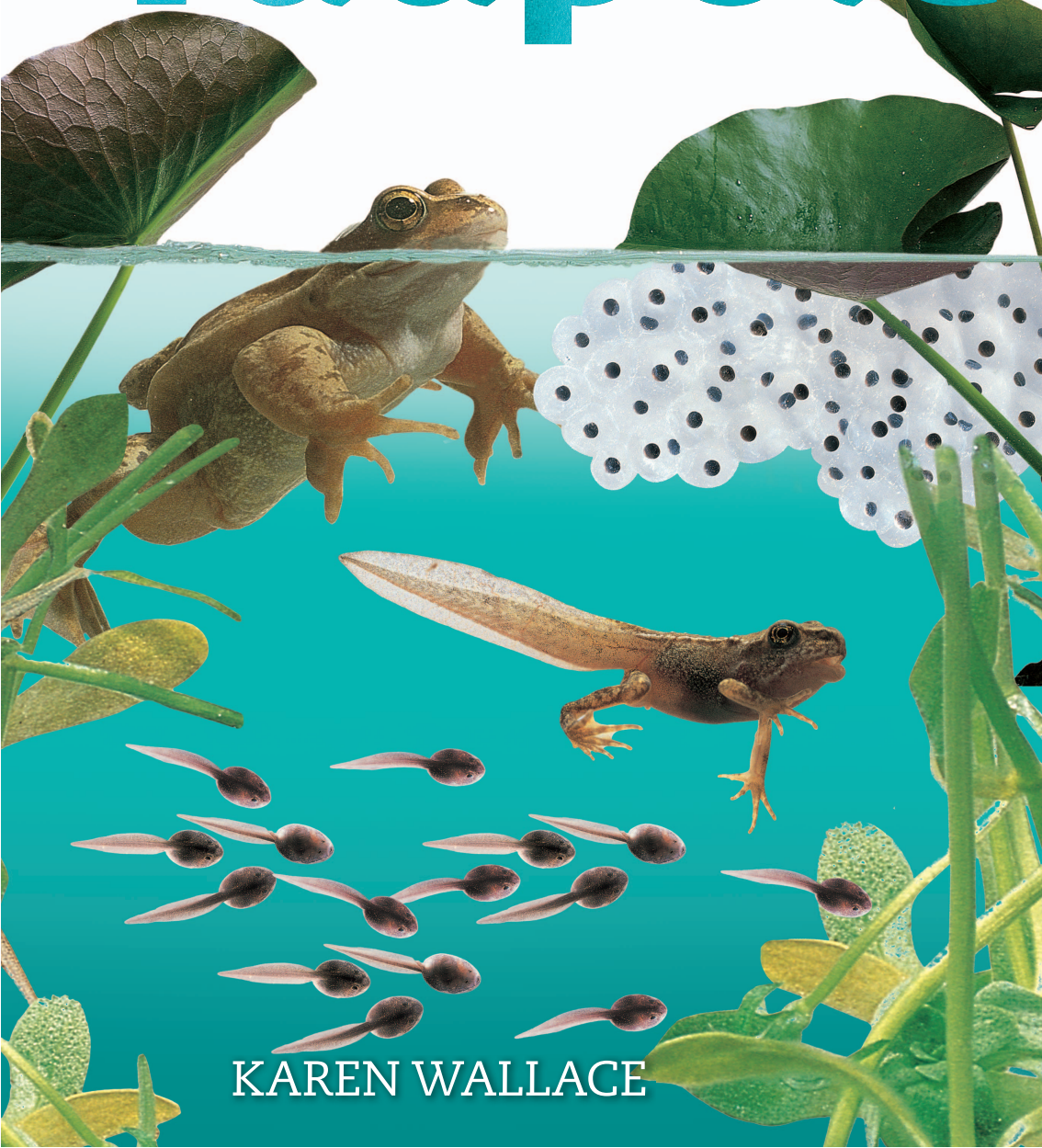




Readers

1

# Tale of a Tadpole



KAREN WALLACE



# Tale of a Tadpole

Written by Karen Wallace





Penguin  
Random  
House

**Series Editor** Deborah Lock  
**US Senior Editor** Shannon Beatty  
**Project Editors** Caroline Bingham, Caryn Jenner, Penny Smith  
**Editors** Regina Kahney, Arpita Nath, Anneka Wahlhaus  
**Art Editor** Jyotsna Julka, Michelle Baxter  
**Senior Art Editor** Ann Cannings  
**Producer** Christine Ni  
**Senior Producer, Pre-production** Francesca Wardell  
**Picture Researcher** Sakshi Saluja  
**Jacket Designer** Hoa Luc  
**DTP Designers** Nand Kishor Acharya,  
Vijay Kandwal, Nityanand Kumar, Anita Yadav  
**Managing Editor** Soma B. Chowdhury  
**Managing Art Editor** Ahlawat Gunjan  
**Art Directors** Rachel Foster, Martin Wilson  
**Editorial Consultant** Theresa Greenaway

**Reading Consultant**  
Linda Gambrell, Ph.D.

First American Edition, 1998  
Other editions, 2009, 2010  
This edition, 2015

Published in the United States by DK Publishing  
345 Hudson Street, New York, New York 10014

Copyright © 1998, 2015 Dorling Kindersley Limited  
DK, a Division of Penguin Random House LLC

15 16 17 18 19 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1  
001—271724—September/15

All rights reserved. Without limiting the rights under copyright reserved above, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in or introduced into a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form, or by any means (electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise), without the prior written permission of the copyright owner. Published in Great Britain by Dorling Kindersley Limited.

A catalog record for this book is available  
from the Library of Congress.

ISBN: 978-1-4654-3508-8 (Paperback)  
ISBN: 978-1-4654-3509-5 (Hardback)

DK books are available at special discounts when purchased in bulk for sales promotions,  
premiums, fund-raising, or educational use. For details, contact:

DK Publishing Special Markets  
345 Hudson Street, New York, New York 10014  
SpecialSales@dk.com

Printed and bound in China.

The publisher would like to thank the following for their kind permission to reproduce their photographs:

(Key: a=above, b=below/bottom, c=center, l=left, r=right, t=top)

**Photographers:** Paul Bricknell, Jane Burton, Geoff Dann, Mike Dunning, Neil Fletcher, Frank Greenaway and Kim Taylor.  
**4-5 Dreamstime.com:** Chudtsankov. **5 Alamy Images:** David Cook / blueshiftstudios (r). **6-7 Dreamstime.com:** Chudtsankov. **6 Alamy Images:** David Cook / blueshiftstudios (cl). **Dorling Kindersley:** Jerry Young (b). **7 Corbis:** David A. Northcott (cl); DLILLC (br). **18 Dreamstime.com:** Anna Bakulina (t). **iStockphoto.com:** Gannet77 (ca).  
**18-19 Dreamstime.com:** Chudtsankov. **19 Dorling Kindersley:** Twan Leenders (c). **30-31 Dreamstime.com:** Chudtsankov. **30 Dreamstime.com:** Andreykuzmin (ca); Danny Smythe (tl). **38-39 Dreamstime.com:** Chudtsankov.  
**Getty Images:** James Balog (Frog). **42-43 Dreamstime.com:** Chudtsankov. **42 Alamy Images:** David Cook / blueshiftstudios (cl). **Dreamstime.com:** Isselee (cr). **44 Dreamstime.com:** Mkguijpers (br).

**Science Photo Library:** Claude Nuridsany & Marie Perennou (bl)

**Jacket images: Front:** Getty Images: parema / E+ t.

All other images © Dorling Kindersley  
For further information see: [www.dkimages.com](http://www.dkimages.com)

A WORLD OF IDEAS:  
SEE ALL THERE IS TO KNOW

[www.dk.com](http://www.dk.com)

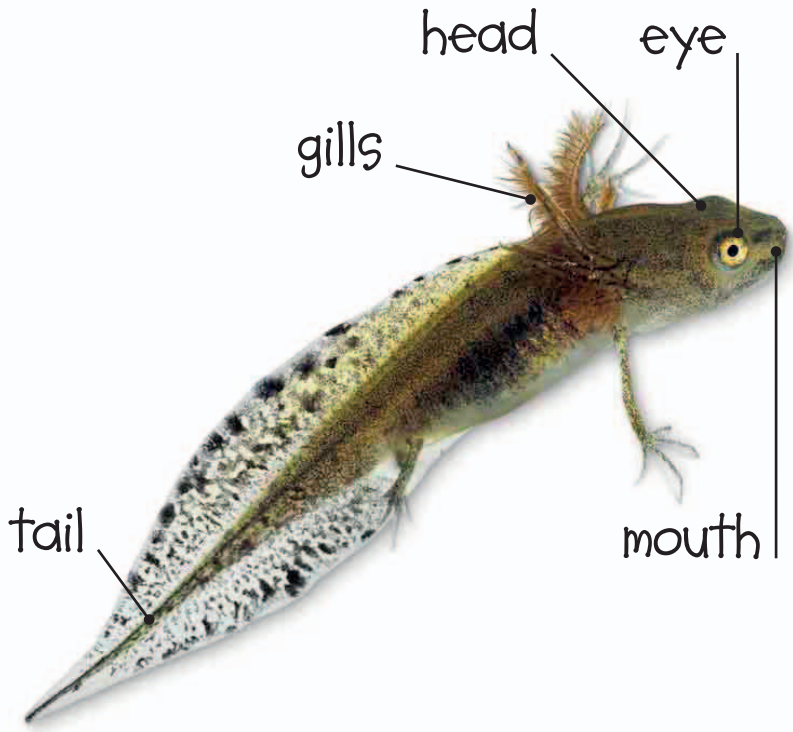


# Contents

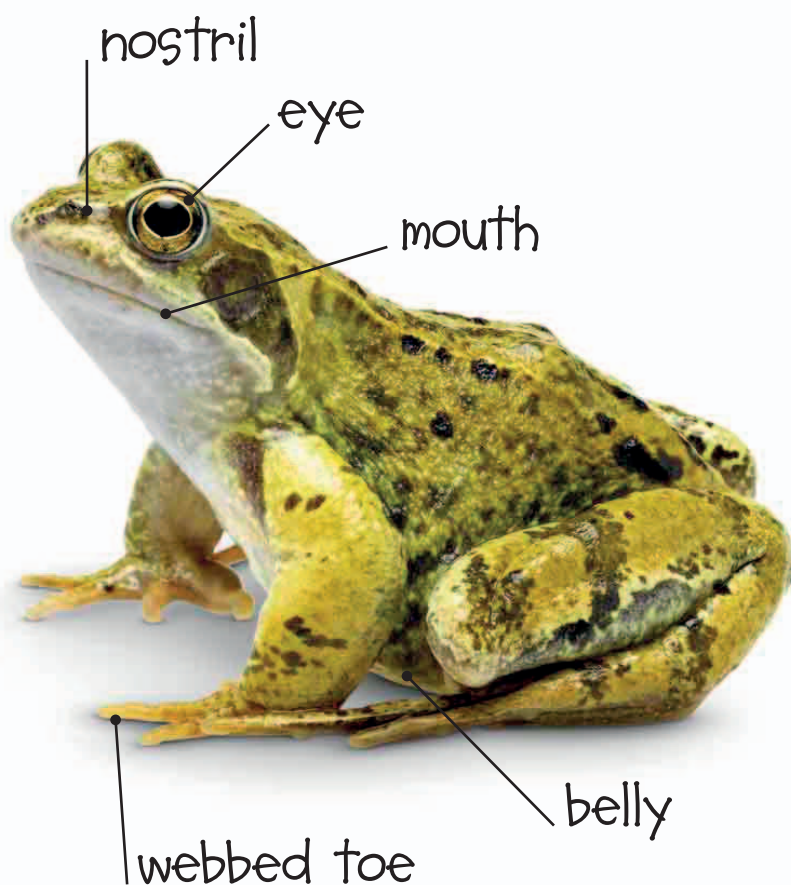
- 4 A Tadpole is a Baby Frog
- 6 Frog Gallery
- 18 Frog Facts
- 30 Build a Frog Home
- 38 Hop Like a Frog
- 42 From Tadpole to Frog
- 43 Tadpole Quiz
- 44 Glossary
- 45 Index
- 46 Guide for Parents



# A Tadpole is a Baby Frog



When a tadpole grows up...



...it becomes a frog.

# Frog Gallery

There are more than 4,000 kinds of frogs. They are different shapes, sizes, and colors.



## Common frogs

live near ponds  
and in tall grass.

## Green ornate horned frogs

use their  
big mouths  
to eat a lot  
of food.



## Malayan leaf frogs

look like leaves.

This helps them  
to hide on the  
forest floor and  
hunt for food.



## Mantellas

are found in many  
different colors.

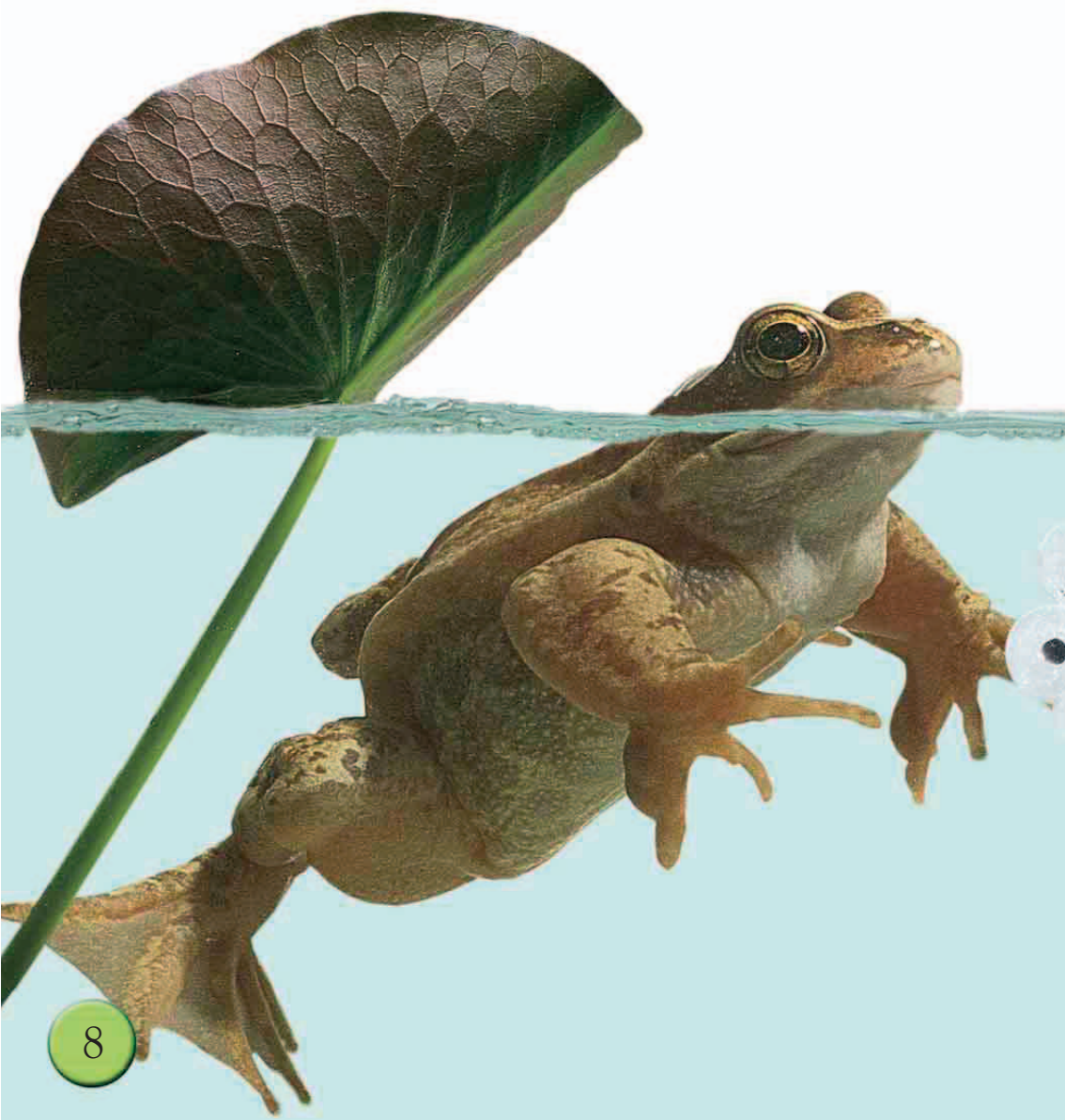
## Red-eyed tree frogs

scare enemies  
with their big,  
red eyes.





The tale of a tadpole  
begins in a pond.  
Mother frog lays her eggs  
next to a lily pad.



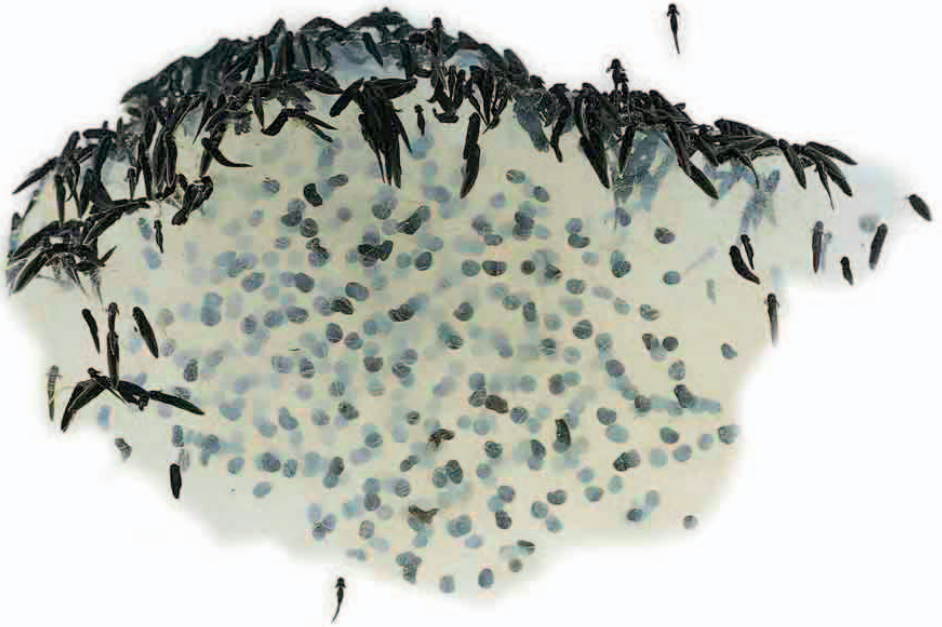
Each tiny egg is wrapped  
in clear jelly.



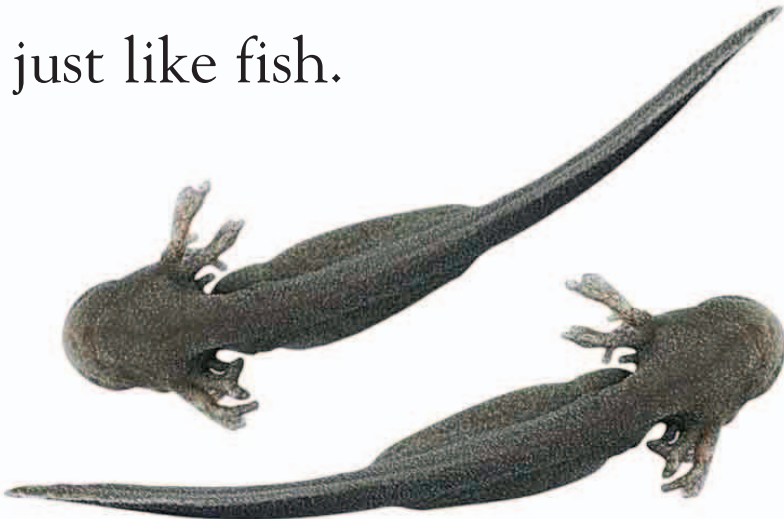
Inside the jelly,  
the eggs grow into tadpoles.  
They wriggle like worms.



They push through the jelly  
and swim in the water.

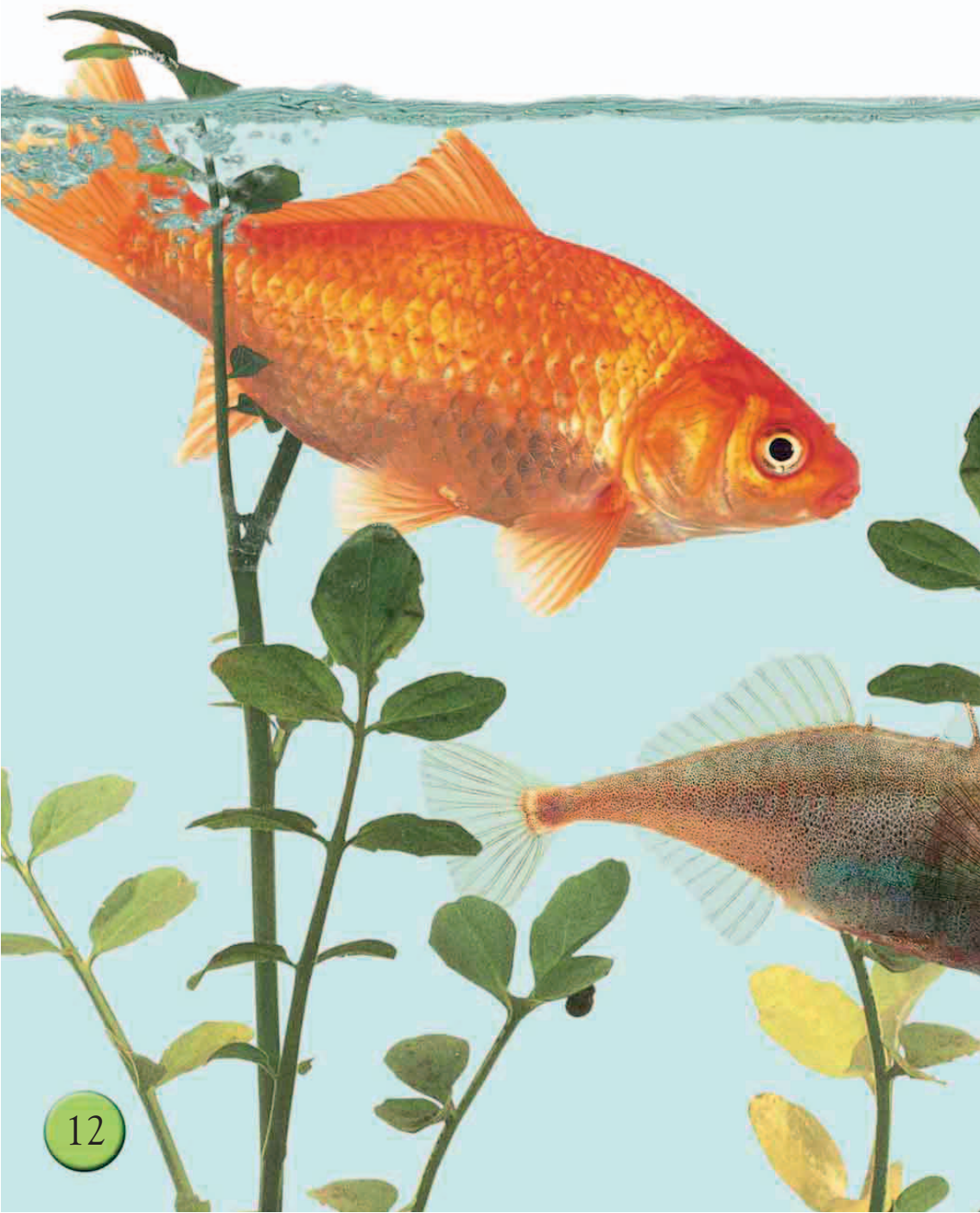


They breathe through gills,  
just like fish.



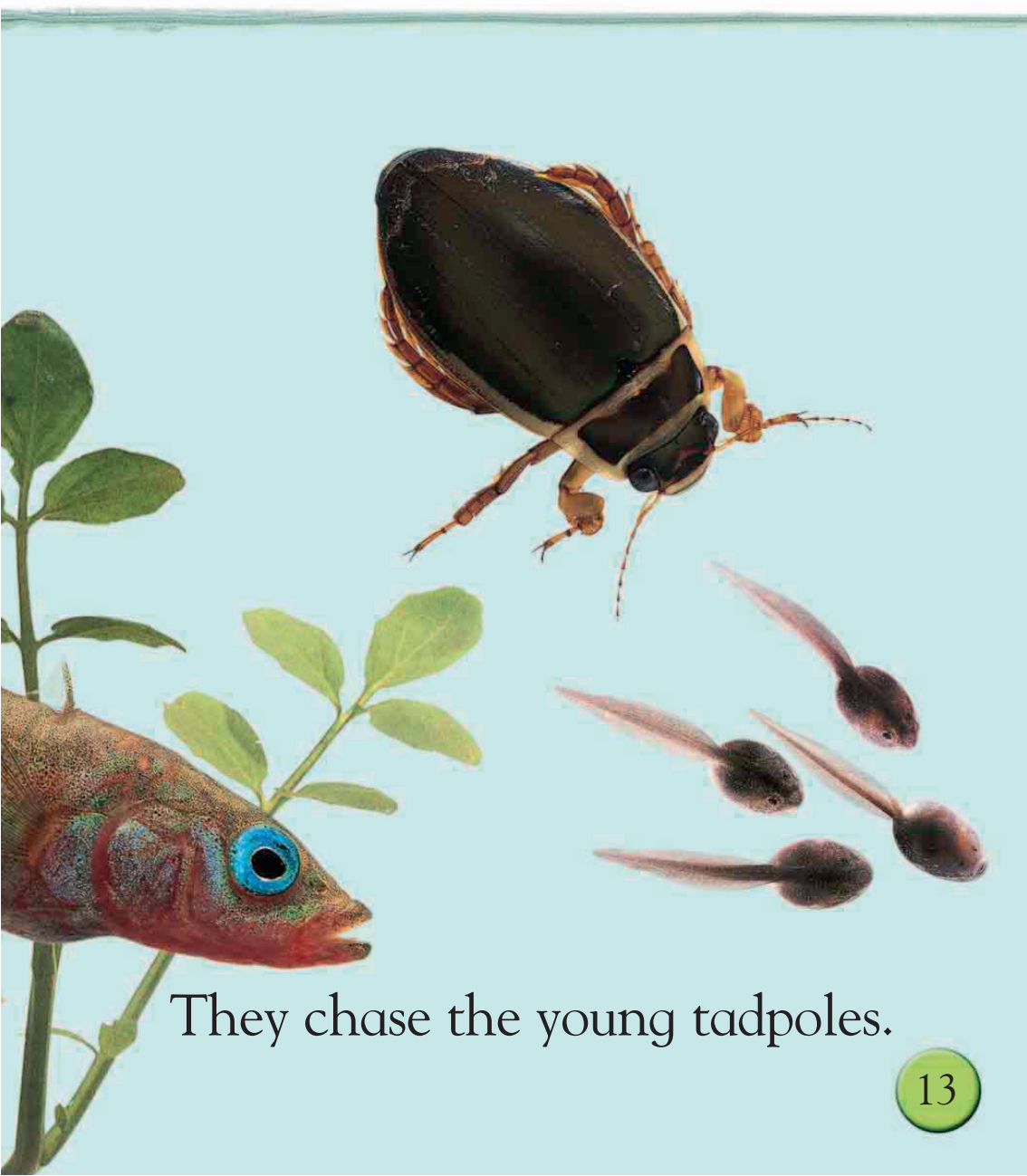


Many other animals  
live in the pond.



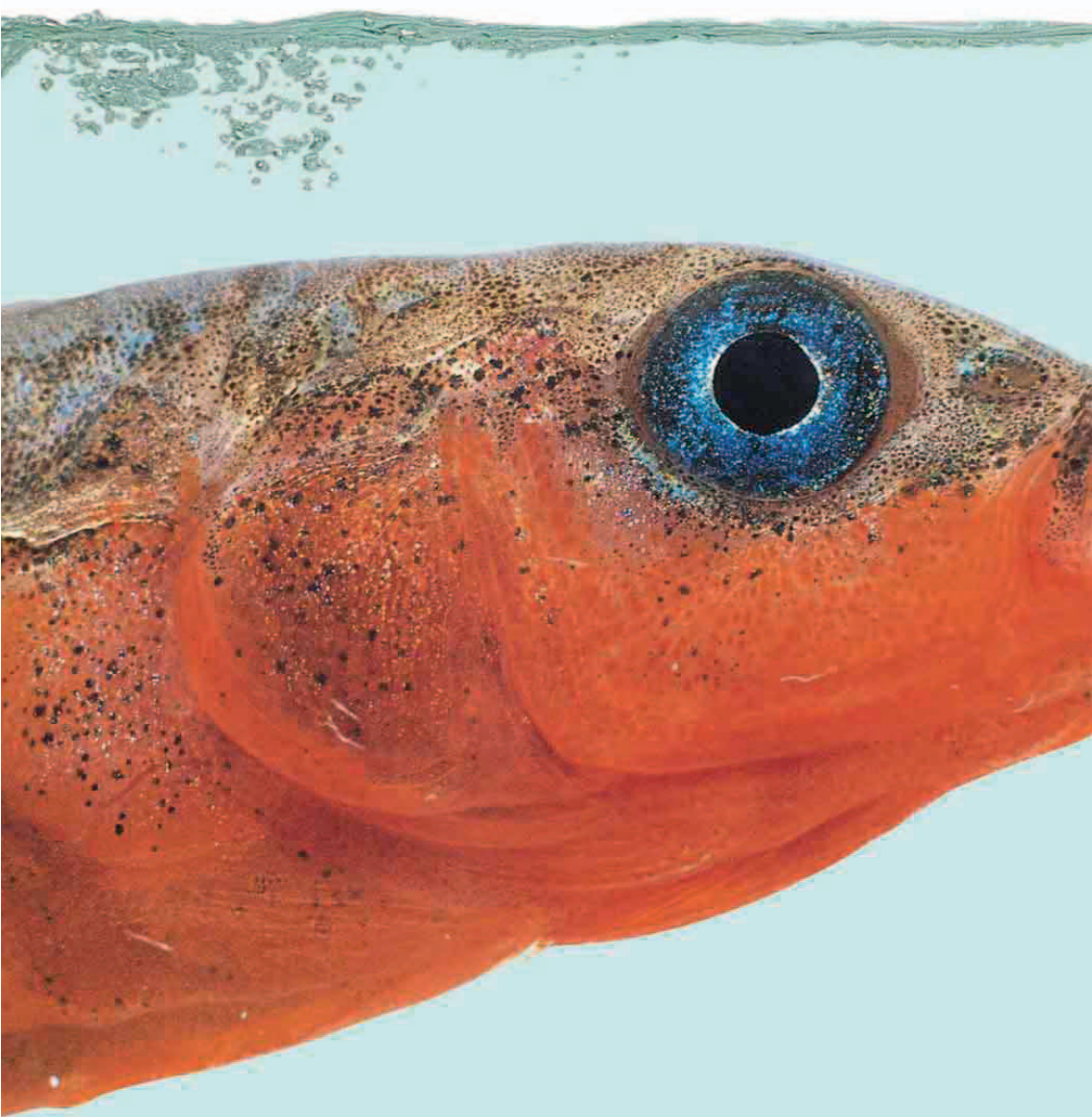


There are shiny goldfish and  
sticklebacks and  
great diving beetles.

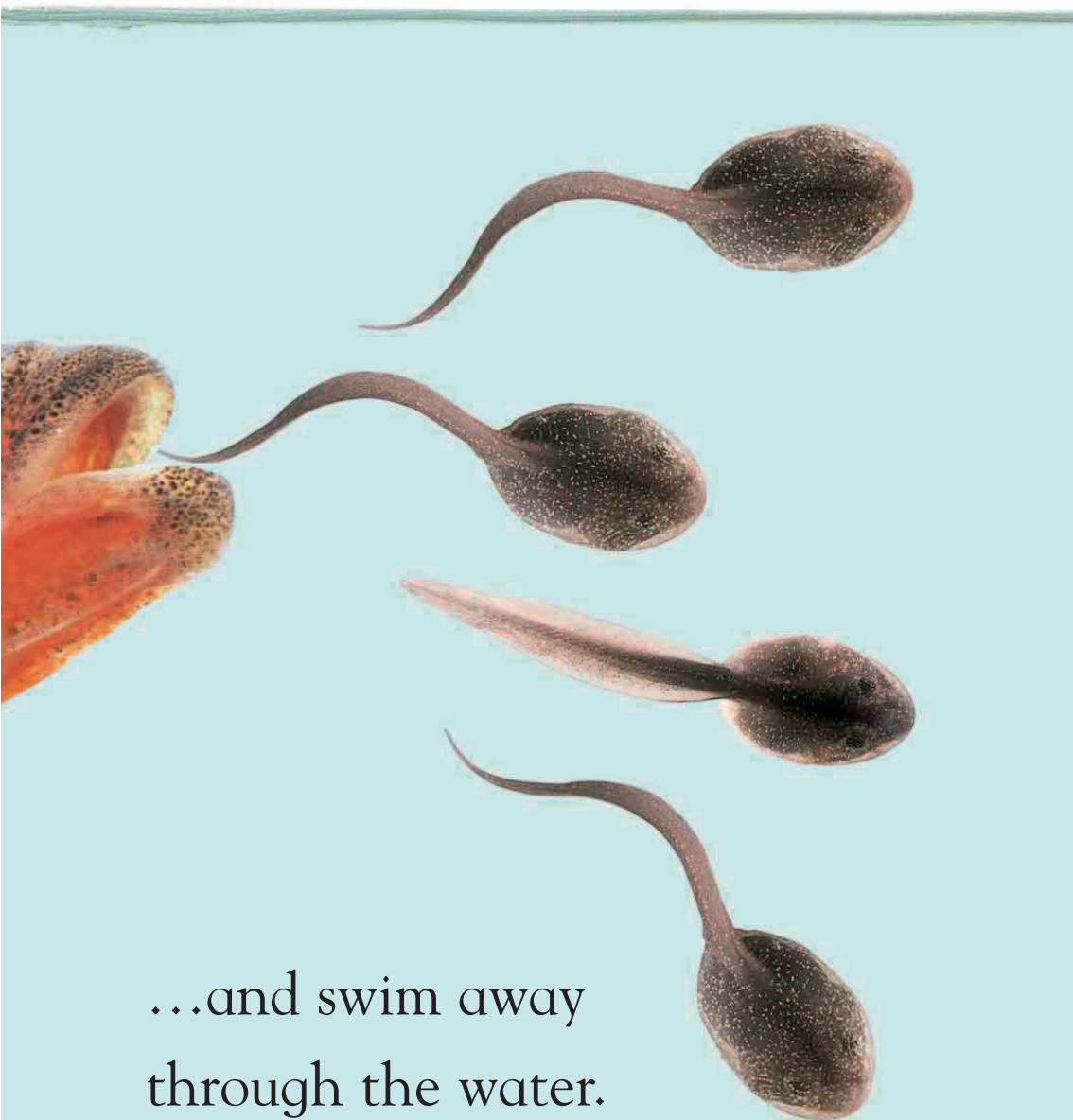


They chase the young tadpoles.

A stickleback feels hungry.  
He opens his mouth wide.

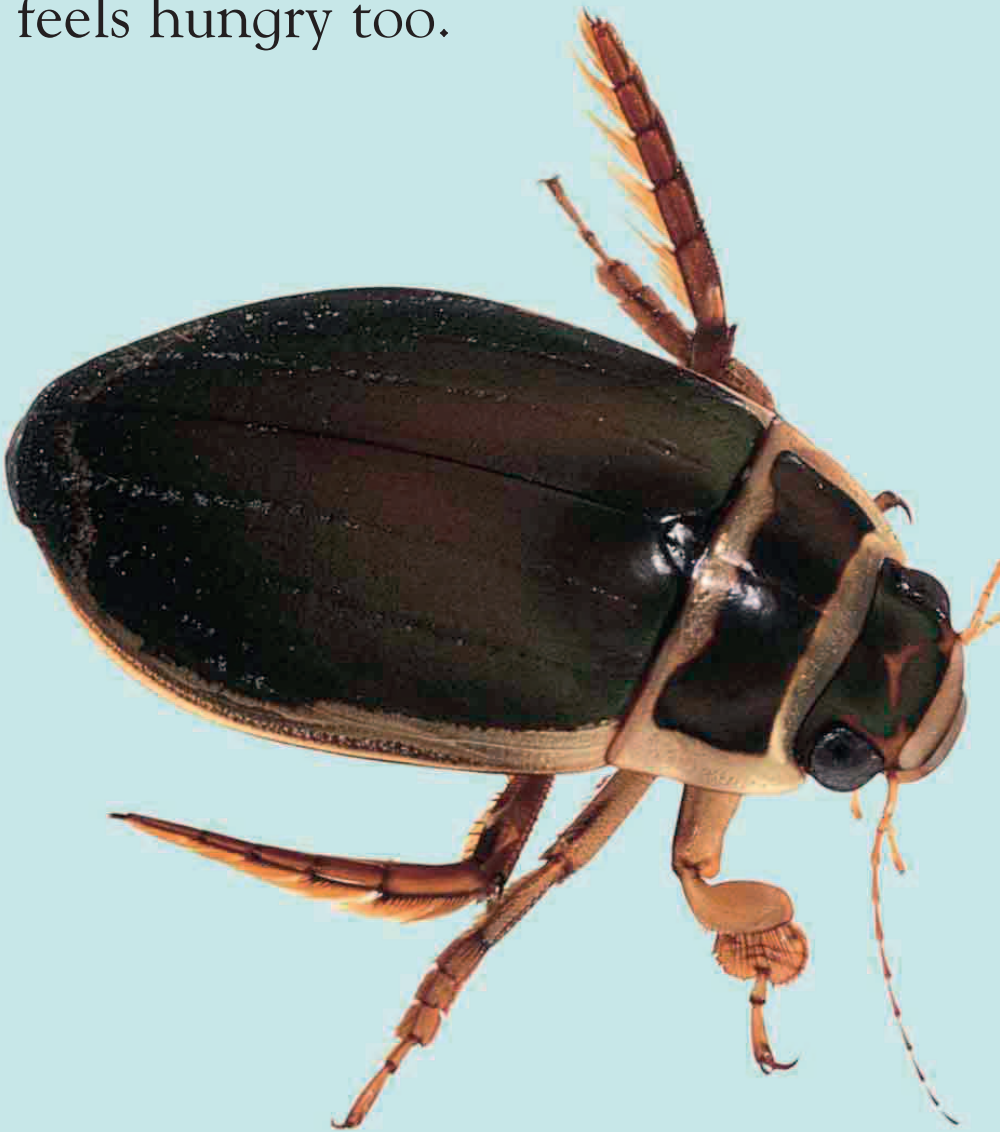


The little gray tadpoles  
wiggle their tails...



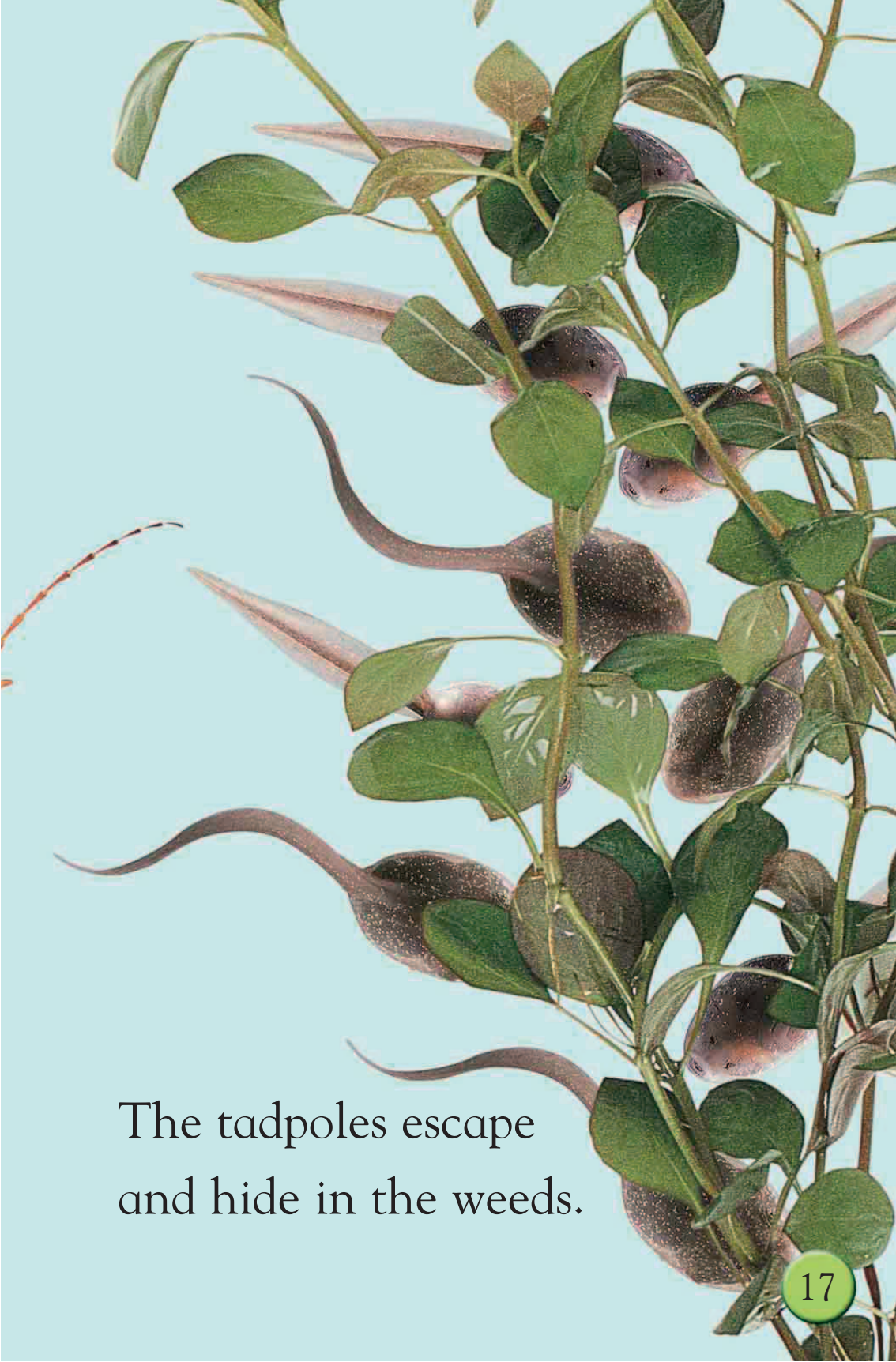
...and swim away  
through the water.

A great diving beetle  
feels hungry too.



His hairy back legs  
beat through the water.





The tadpoles escape  
and hide in the weeds.



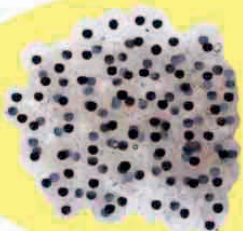
# Frog Facts



A mother frog  
can lay  
as many as  
4,000 eggs  
at once.



The egg jelly has food  
inside for the growing  
tadpoles.



A group of frog eggs  
is called frog spawn.

Summer is the best  
time to spot new  
adult frogs.

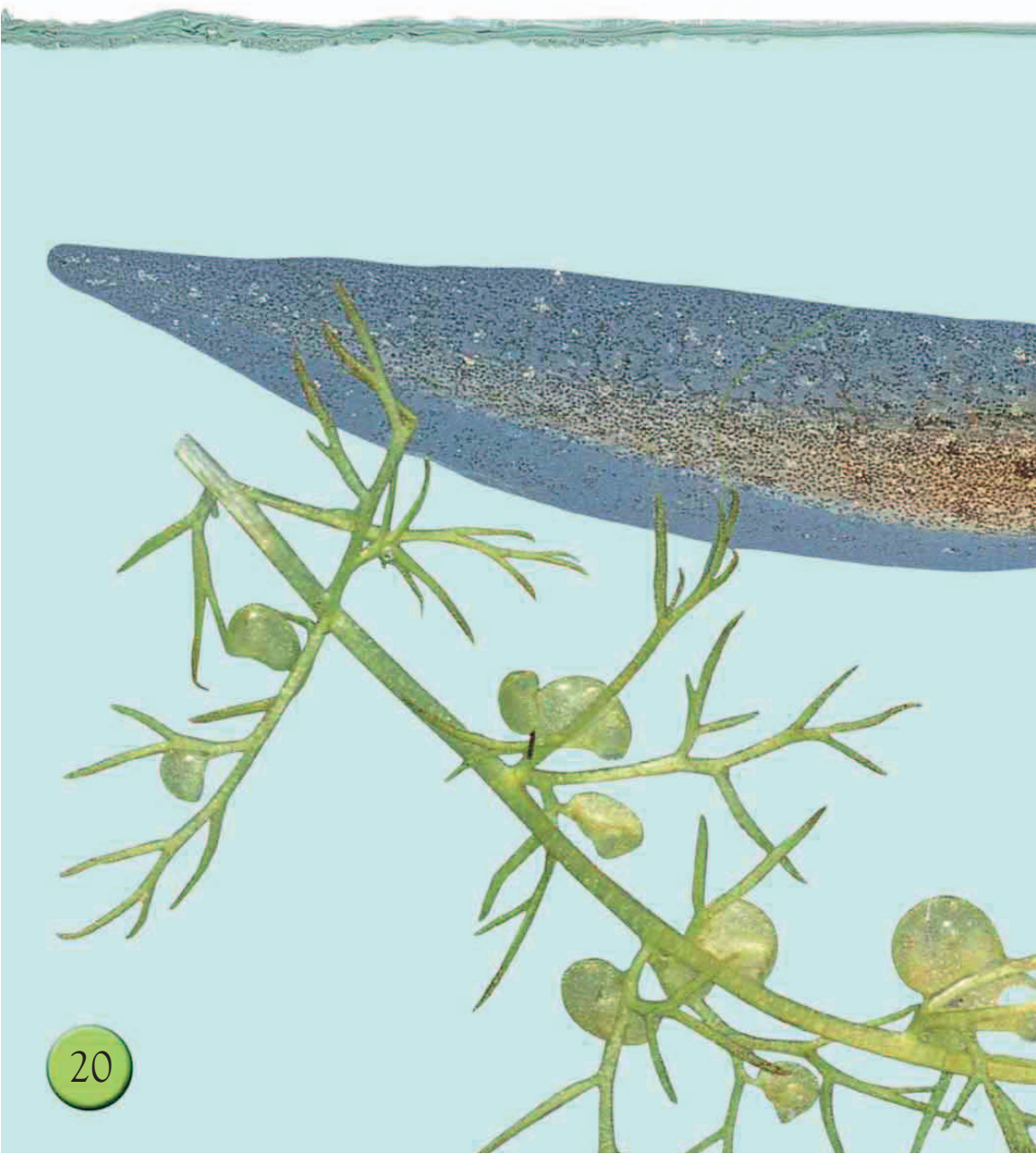
Frogs call to one  
another by croaking.

A frog's skin  
is wet and  
slippery.



Most tadpoles are eaten by  
other animals before they  
grow into frogs.

Soon a tadpole  
grows legs  
with tiny webbed toes.



Webbed toes are like flippers.  
They help the small tadpole  
push through the water.





He grows arms  
with long skinny fingers.





He nibbles on plants and  
gobbles green pondweed.



Half tadpole, half frog,  
he rests in the sunshine.



His tail is shrinking.





It gets smaller and smaller.

The new little frog  
sits on a lily pad.





His legs are strong now.  
He can breathe  
through his nostrils.  
His skin is dotted  
with tiny gold spots.





Frogs must keep their skin slimy.  
He hops back in the pond  
and swims for a while.  
Then he climbs onto a log.



Another frog climbs up  
and sits down beside him.



# Build a Frog Home

You will need:



trowel



watering can



clay pot



gravel



soil



saucer



damp leaves



- 1 Use a trowel to dig a hole in a damp place. Half-fill a clay pot with soil and damp leaves. Put it on its side in the hole.





- 2 Use a watering can to wet the area. This will hold the pot in place.



- 3 Put gravel and water in a saucer. Place it next to the pot so the frog can splash around!



Now full-grown,  
he dives through the water.

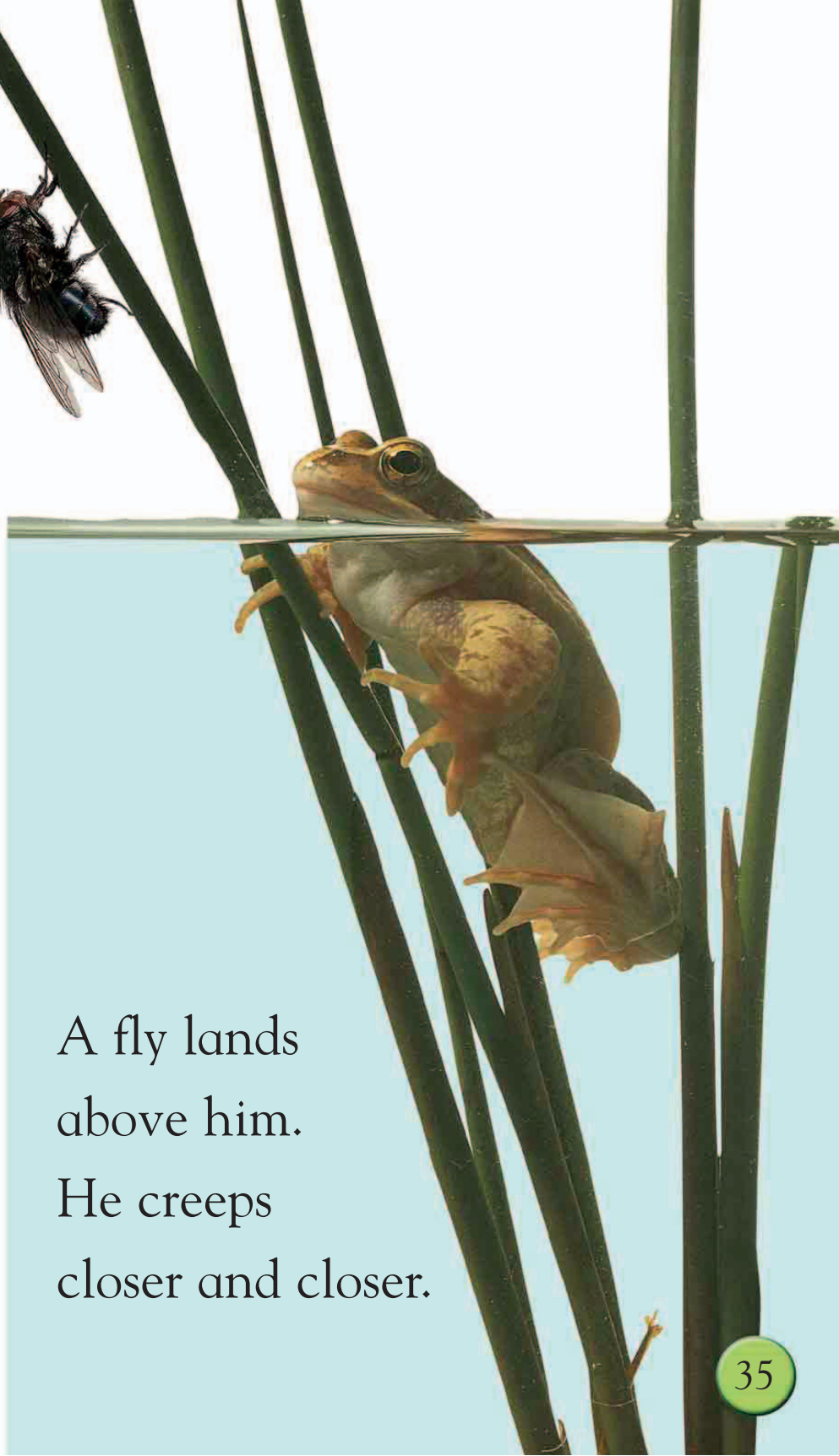


He's not afraid of the stickleback.  
He swims past the beetle.



In the pond,  
he watches and waits.  
What does he see  
with his round beady eyes?





A fly lands  
above him.  
He creeps  
closer and closer.



But a big frog jumps up.  
It snatches the fly  
with its long, sticky tongue.





The frog  
misses his meal.  
Next time  
he'll be faster!

# Hop Like a Frog

Frogs have long back legs that help them to hop high and far.





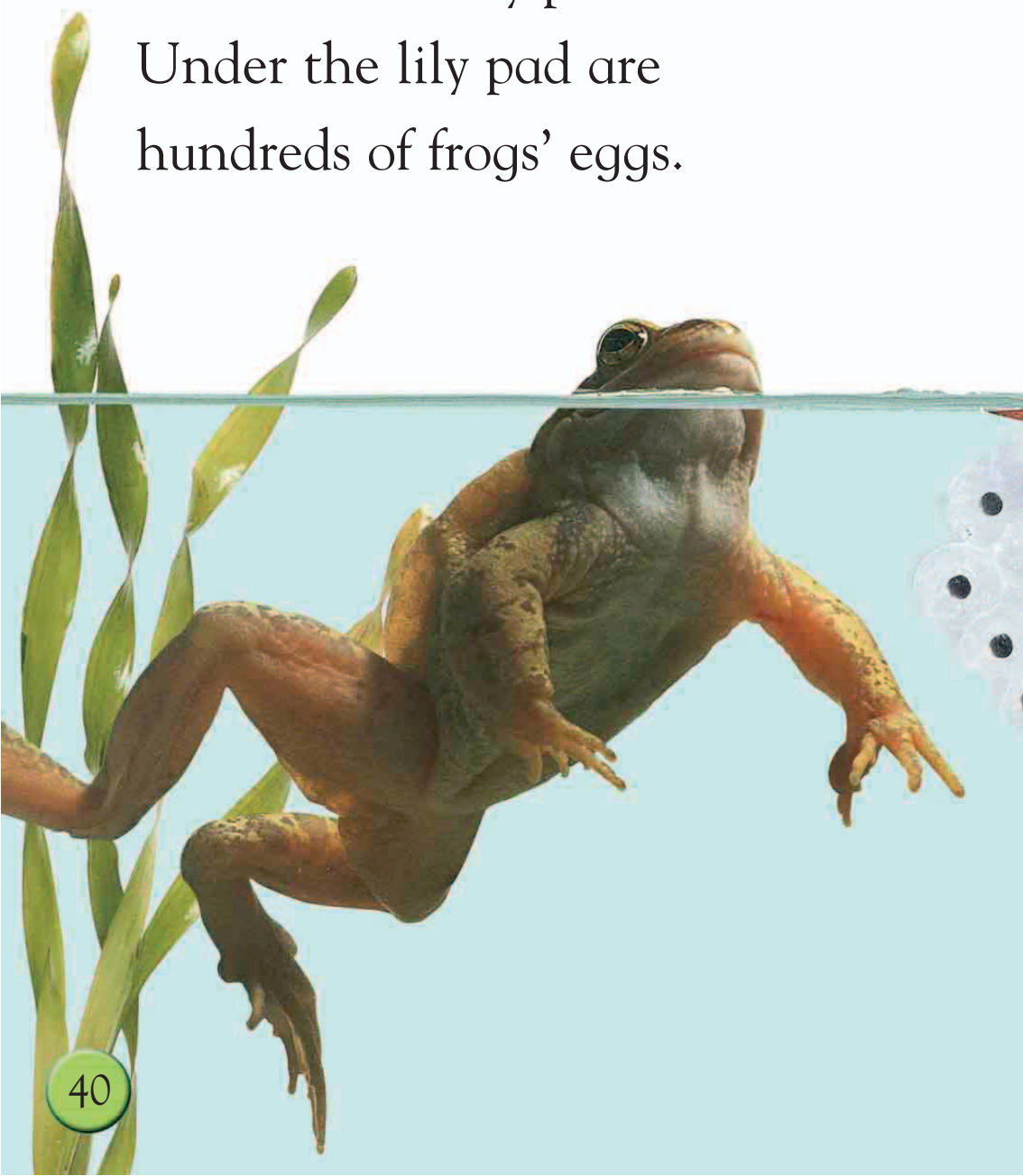
Can you hop like a frog?



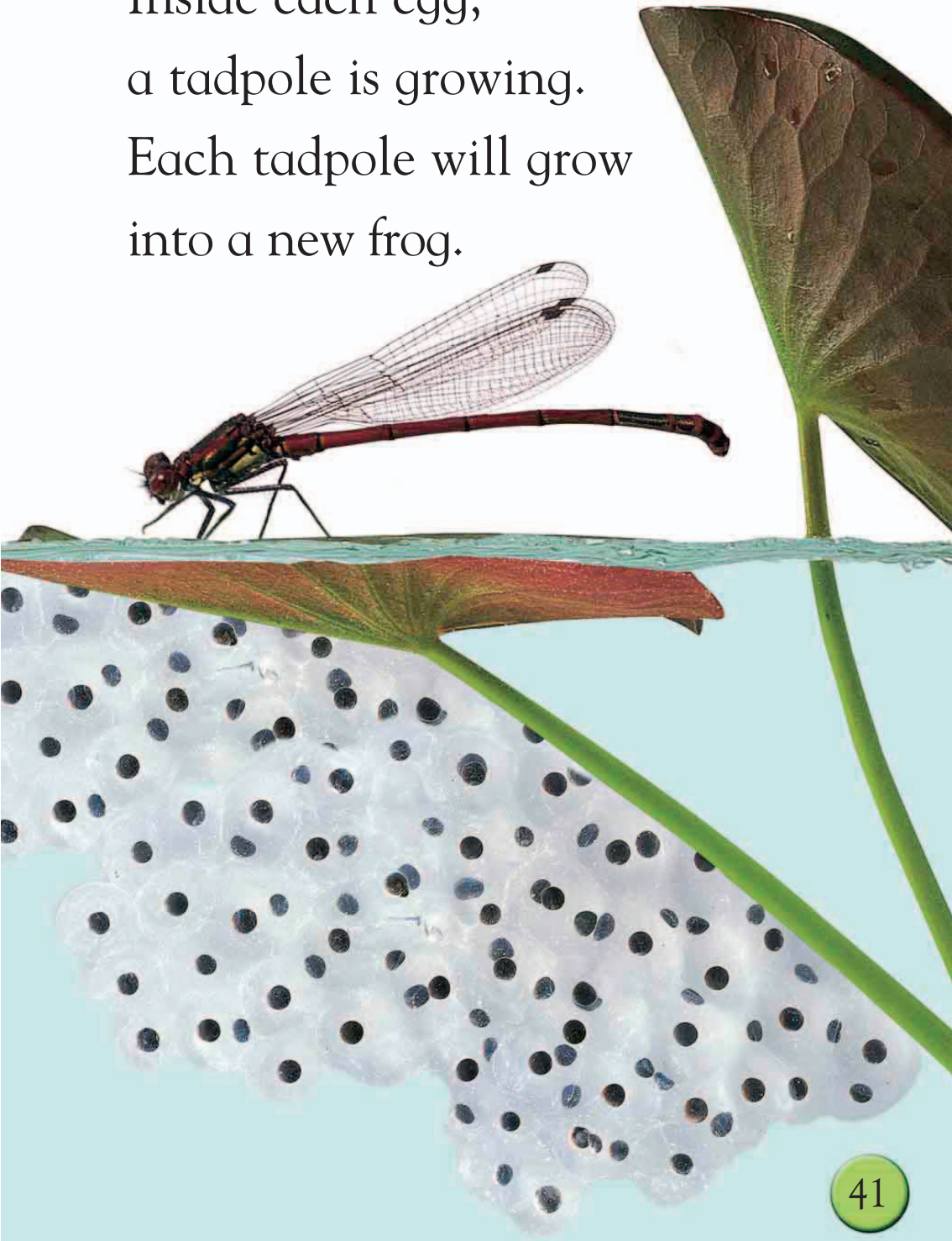
The golden-skinned frog  
chases a dragonfly.

It lands on a lily pad.

Under the lily pad are  
hundreds of frogs' eggs.



Inside each egg,  
a tadpole is growing.  
Each tadpole will grow  
into a new frog.



# From Tadpole to Frog



The tadpole hatches out of the egg.



It has a tail and lives in water.



The tadpole has become a frog.



The tadpole grows feet and teeth.

# Tadpole Quiz



What is wrapped around the tiny frog eggs?



What do tadpoles breathe through?



Which has a tail —a tadpole or a frog?



What is a group of frog eggs called?



How do frogs call to one another?

Answers on page 45.



# Glossary

**gills** openings in a tadpole's body used to breathe under water

**jelly** covering that protects frog eggs

**nostrils** two openings on a frog's face used to breathe

**tail** back end of the tadpole's body

**tongue** long, sticky muscle in a frog's mouth used to catch food

**webbed toe** skin between toes that helps tadpoles to swim



# Index

- back legs 16, 38
- egg 8–10, 18, 40–42
- flippers 21
- fingers 22
- frog 5–7, 18–19, 24, 26, 28–29, 30–31, 36–42
  - mother frog 8, 18
- gills 4, 11
- goldfish 13
- great diving beetles 13, 16
- jelly 9–11, 18
- lily pad 8, 26, 40
- nostril 5, 27
- pond 6, 8, 12, 28, 34
- skin 19, 27–28
- slimy 28
- sticklebacks 13–14, 33
- swim 11, 15, 28, 33
- tadpole 4, 8, 10, 13, 15, 17–21, 24, 41–42
- tails 4, 15, 24, 42
- tongue 36
- webbed toes 5, 20–21
- weeds 17
  - pondweed 23

## Answers to the Tadpole Quiz:

- 1.** Clear jelly; **2.** Gills; **3.** Tadpole;
- 4.** Frog spawn; **5.** By croaking.

# Guide for Parents

**DK Readers** is a four-level interactive reading adventure series for children, developing the habit of reading widely for both pleasure and information. These books have an exciting main narrative interspersed with a range of reading genres to suit your child's reading ability, as required by the Common Core State Standards. Each book is designed to develop your child's reading skills, fluency, grammar awareness, and comprehension in order to build confidence and engagement when reading.

## Ready for a *Beginning to Read* book

### YOUR CHILD SHOULD

- be familiar with using beginning letter sounds and context clues to figure out unfamiliar words.
- be aware of the need for a slight pause at commas and a longer one at periods.
- alter his/her expression for questions and exclamations.

## A VALUABLE AND SHARED READING EXPERIENCE

For many children, reading requires much effort, but adult participation can make this both fun and easier. So here are a few tips on how to use this book with your child.

### **TIP 1** Check out the contents together before your child begins:

- read the text about the book on the back cover.
- flip through the book and stop to chat about the contents page together to heighten your child's interest and expectation.
- make use of unfamiliar or difficult words on the page in a brief discussion.
- chat about the nonfiction reading features used in the book, such as headings, captions, recipes, lists, or charts.

## **TIP 2 Support your child as he/she reads the story pages:**

- give the book to your child to read and turn the pages.
- where necessary, encourage your child to break a word into syllables, sound out each one, and then flow the syllables together. Ask him/her to reread the sentence to check the meaning.
- when there's a question mark or an exclamation mark, encourage your child to vary his/her voice as he/she reads the sentence. Demonstrate how to do this if it is helpful.

## **TIP 3 Chat at the end of each page:**

- the factual pages tend to be more difficult than the story pages, and are designed to be shared with your child.
- ask questions about the text and the meaning of the words used. These help to develop comprehension skills and awareness of the language used.

### **A FEW ADDITIONAL TIPS**

- Always encourage your child to try reading difficult words by themselves. Praise any self-corrections, for example, "I like the way you sounded out that word and then changed the way you said it, to make sense."
- Try to read together everyday. Reading little and often is best. These books are divided into manageable chapters for one reading session. However, after 10 minutes, only keep going if your child wants to read on.
- Read other books of different types to your child just for enjoyment and information.

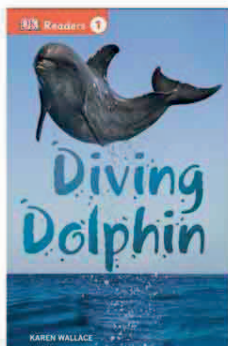
Series consultant, **Dr. Linda Gambrell**, Distinguished Professor of Education at Clemson University, has served as President of the National Reading Conference, the College Reading Association, and the International Reading Association. She is also reading consultant for the **DK Adventures**.



Have you read these other great books from DK?

## BEGINNING TO READ

1



Splash! A young dolphin explores the ocean, diving and leaping.



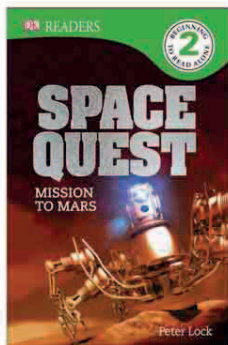
Find out what happens on a farm through the seasons.



Hard hats on! Watch the busy machines build a new school.

## BEGINNING TO READ ALONE

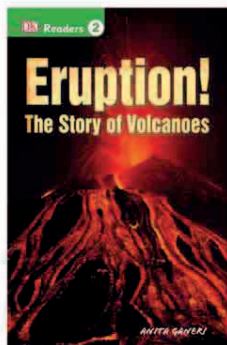
2



Embark on a mission to explore the solar system. First stop—Mars.



Join Louise at the zoo, preparing to welcome a new panda baby.



What spits out fire and ash or explodes with a bang? Volcanoes!