Frog

Classification:

Kingdom: Animalia

Phylum : Chordata

Class : Amphibia

Order : Anura

Family : Ranidae

Genus : Rana

Species: temporaria



For further details, Link

Characteristics:

- Frogs are tailless, cold-blooded amphibians with unique characteristics like permeable, moist skin and strong hind legs adapted for leaping and swimming.
- Frogs are amphibians belonging to the order Anura, characterized by the absence of a tail in their adult stage.
- They are vertebrates, meaning they have a backbone, and are ectothermic (cold-blooded), relying on their environment for body temperature regulation.
- **Body:** Frogs have a stout, compact body with a streamlined shape for movement.
- **Skin:** Their skin is smooth, moist, and permeable, allowing for both water absorption and respiration. It is also glandular, producing mucus for moisture and toxic substances for defense against predators.
- **Limbs:** They possess strong, muscular hind limbs with webbed feet for powerful jumping and swimming.
- No Adult Tail: Unlike their larval tadpole stage, adult frogs typically lack a tail.
- **Protruding Eyes:** Their large, protruding eyes offer a wide field of vision, allowing them to see in front, on the sides, and partly behind them, and are used to help swallow food by pushing it down the throat.

- **Senses:** Frogs have large, protruding eyes for good vision, a wide mouth with a front-attached tongue for capturing prey, and a tympanum (ear) for hearing.
- **Life Cycle:** The life cycle involves aquatic larvae called tadpoles, which undergo metamorphosis to develop into adult frogs.

Habits

- **Behavior:** Many frogs are primarily semi-aquatic, living both on land and in water, preferring damp environments.
- Activity: They are generally active during favourable weather but can enter a sleep-like state (torpor or aestivation) in cold or dry conditions.
- **Diet:** Frogs are carnivores, with most feeding on insects, spiders, and other small invertebrates.
- **Vocalization:** Frogs produce a wide range of sounds, especially during the breeding season, to attract mates.
- **Defense:** They use their skin secretions to remain slippery and make predators wary, and some can camouflage themselves in their surroundings.

Habitat

- **Freshwater:** Frogs require freshwater habitats, such as ponds, lakes, swamps, and slow-moving rivers, where they can find food, shelter, and reproduce.
- **Terrestrial:** Some frog species are terrestrial, living in forests, grasslands, or burrows.
- **Global Distribution:** Frogs are found in almost every environment globally, from deserts to tropical forests, though they are most diverse and abundant in the tropics.
- **Environmental Needs:** Their permeable skin makes them susceptible to dehydration, so they must live in moist environments or possess adaptations for dry conditions.