

# Frogs



Our Scouting program is based on the Scouts' own activity ideas and part of the program process will involve the Scouts deciding which Challenge Area is appropriate for the activity. We know that an activity can fit within more than one Challenge Area.

Take the humble frog for example. Frogs are an important part of our natural environment. They help us to understand how healthy our creeks and wetlands are, and their tadpoles eat up all the insects that lay their eggs in water. This means that in summer they help to keep down the number of mosquitos!

How much do we know about the frogs in our community?  
What environment suits a frog population, why do frogs start chirping as the sun goes down, do all frogs sound the same?

All these questions and our Scouts pursuing the answers will determine which of the four Challenge Areas best applies. And it will be different for each Scout. Our humble frog!

This week's program ideas are based around the successful FrogID program run by the Australian Museum.

But first, let's discover more about the wonderful frog starting with the features of a frog. Have the Scouts draw lines to the features of a frog.

## Did you know?

Frogs are amphibians. They evolved ~280 million years ago.

Amphibian means 'two lives'.

Amphibians include frogs, toads, salamanders and caecilians (snake-like animals).

Australia has ~200 species of native amphibians (all frogs!).

Frogs are cold-blooded, vertebrate animals.

## Frog Bits

Instruction: On the Activity sheet, draw lines to connect the labels to the correct parts of the frog.

Protruding eyes

Tympanum (ear drum)

Backbone and internal skeleton

External nare (nostril)

Simple sac-like lungs

Fore limb

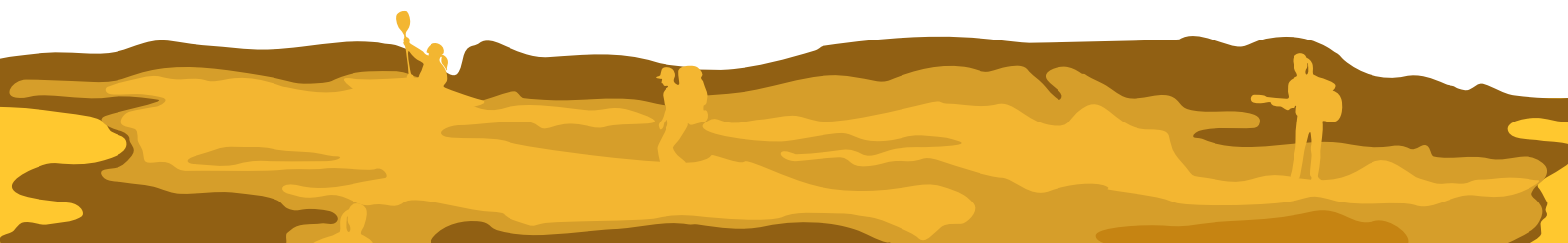
Digits (4 fingers, 5 toes)



Soft, moist skin

Adults have no tail

Hind limb (for jumping)



## Frog Quiz

How well do you think you know frogs?  
Have a go at some of these froggy questions.

**Q 1 – Circle your answer**  
**Where do frogs live?**

- A. On land
- B. In water
- C. Both land and water

**Q 2 – Circle your answer: True or false**  
**Frogs can change the colour of their skin to camouflage themselves.**

True or False

**Q 3 – Put the frog life cycle in order**

- A. Metamorph (tail still present, fore limbs developed)
- B. Eggs
- C. Adult frog
- D. Tadpole

My frog life cycle is 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Q 4 – Circle your answer: True or false**  
**Frogs have slightly different life cycles depending on their habitat.**

True or False

**Q 5 – Circle the correct answer.**

**Australia is home to how many species of native frogs?**

- A. 200
- B. 75
- C. 372
- D. 240

**Q 6 - Circle your answer: True or false**  
**Some frogs can climb trees**

True or False

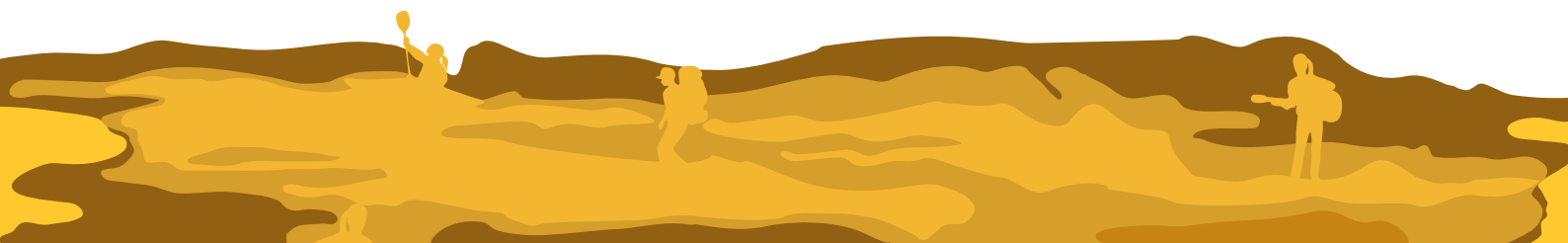
**LEADERS: The correct answers are at the end of this Program sheet.**

## Frog Word Quiz

How many frog words can you find from this list?

Frog, Eggs, Pond, Tadpole, Water, Green, Toad, Croak, Eyes, Legs, Tail, Ears, Skin

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | O | A | D | W | X | P | P | C | E | L |
| A | V | P | S | D | A | O | T | U | A | N |
| D | F | F | N | G | G | N | H | B | R | W |
| P | D | R | H | T | G | D | Y | L | S | O |
| O | O | O | V | N | B | E | A | E | V | R |
| L | T | G | I | R | S | C | Y | G | D | E |
| E | J | K | W | A | T | E | R | S | L | E |
| S | R | F | O | F | I | E | Z | O | I | C |
| G | Y | L | E | Y | E | S | A | G | A | H |
|   | S | K | I | N | O | V | N | P | T | K |



# Frog ID

To understand more about the frogs in our community Scouts can download the FrogID app and explore their local creek or wetland to record whatever frog noises they hear.

We have even created a “Scouts Victoria” FrogID Group which Scouts and Leaders can join when they make their account. Any submissions Scouts make to FrogID will put them on the Scouts Victoria leaderboard. I wonder who might enter the most submissions in Scouts Victoria.

Here are the links you'll require:

Google Play Store - FrogID App - <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=au.net.australianmuseum.frogid>

Apple App Store - FrogID App - <https://apps.apple.com/au/app/frogid/id1176329797>

Create a FrogID Profile (and select Scouts Victoria as your group when you do) - <https://www.frogid.net.au/signup>

Learn how to use the app (for Leaders/Scouts) - <https://www.frogid.net.au/learn#videos>

## Make Your Own Frog Habitat

If you're feeling really adventurous you might want to create your very own frog habitat.

There are tips on how to build your own frog habitat in the FrogID Create a Frog Habitat Factsheet, which you can find at the end of this document.

Here's a couple of examples you could build.

### Liner Ponds





## Above Ground Ponds



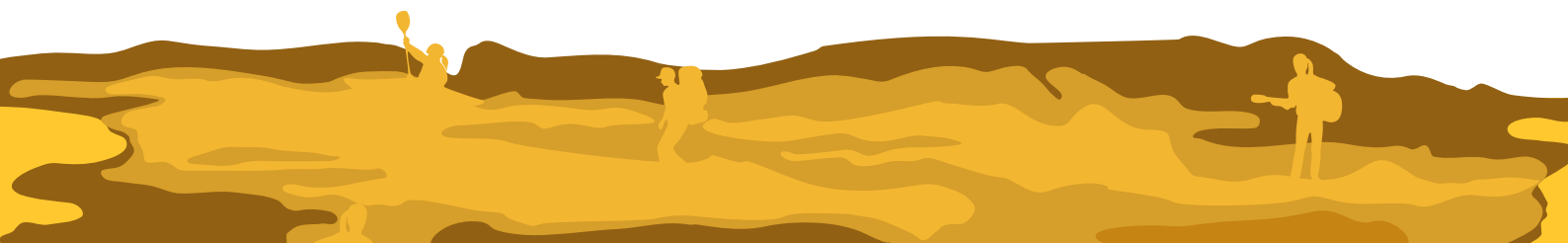
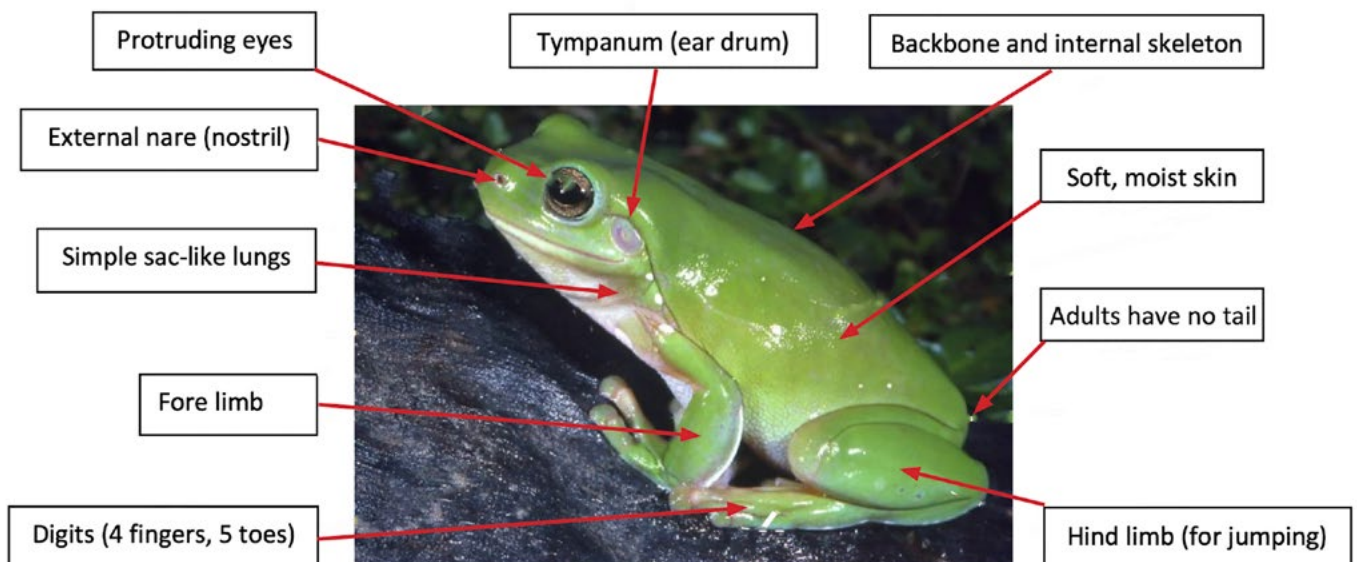
## Prefabricated Frog Ponds



Thanks to Laurence Williams, State Commissioner - Environment for his contribution to this week's program.

## Answers for Leaders

### Answer to Frog Bits



## Answers to Frog Quiz

**Q 1 – Circle your answer**

**Where do frogs live?**

C - Both land and water

**Q 2 – Circle your answer, True or false**

**Frogs can change the colour of their skin to camouflage themselves.**

True

**Q 3 – Put the frog life cycle in order**

B. Eggs

D. Tadpole

A. Metamorph (tail still present, fore limbs developed)

C. Adult frog

**Q 4 – Circle your answer, True or false**

**Frogs have slightly different life cycles depending on their habitat.**

True

**Q 5 – Circle the correct answer.**

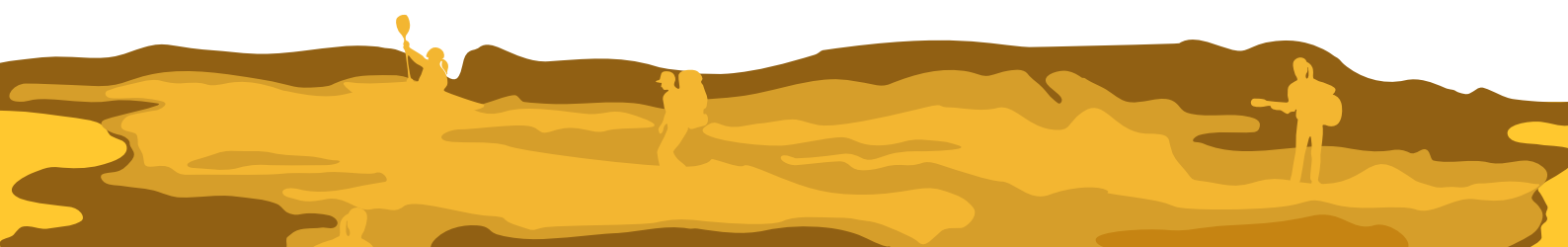
**Australia is home to how many species of native frogs?**

D - 240

**Q 6 - Circle your answer, True or false**

**Some frogs can climb trees**

True



## Get involved

When you record frog calls using the **FrogID** app you are helping scientists determine where frogs are most at risk from habitat loss, disease and climate change.

**FrogID** is Australia's first national frog count to save some of our most threatened species. It's a scientific rescue mission, so get your school involved today.

Teachers can register a class of students and use the FrogID classroom resources to contribute to FrogID.

Get your class and students involved in FrogID:

1. Create an account and group at **FrogID.net.au**
2. Instruct students to create an account and to join a class
3. Download the **FrogID** app, sign in and start recording
4. Check Leaderboard for results.

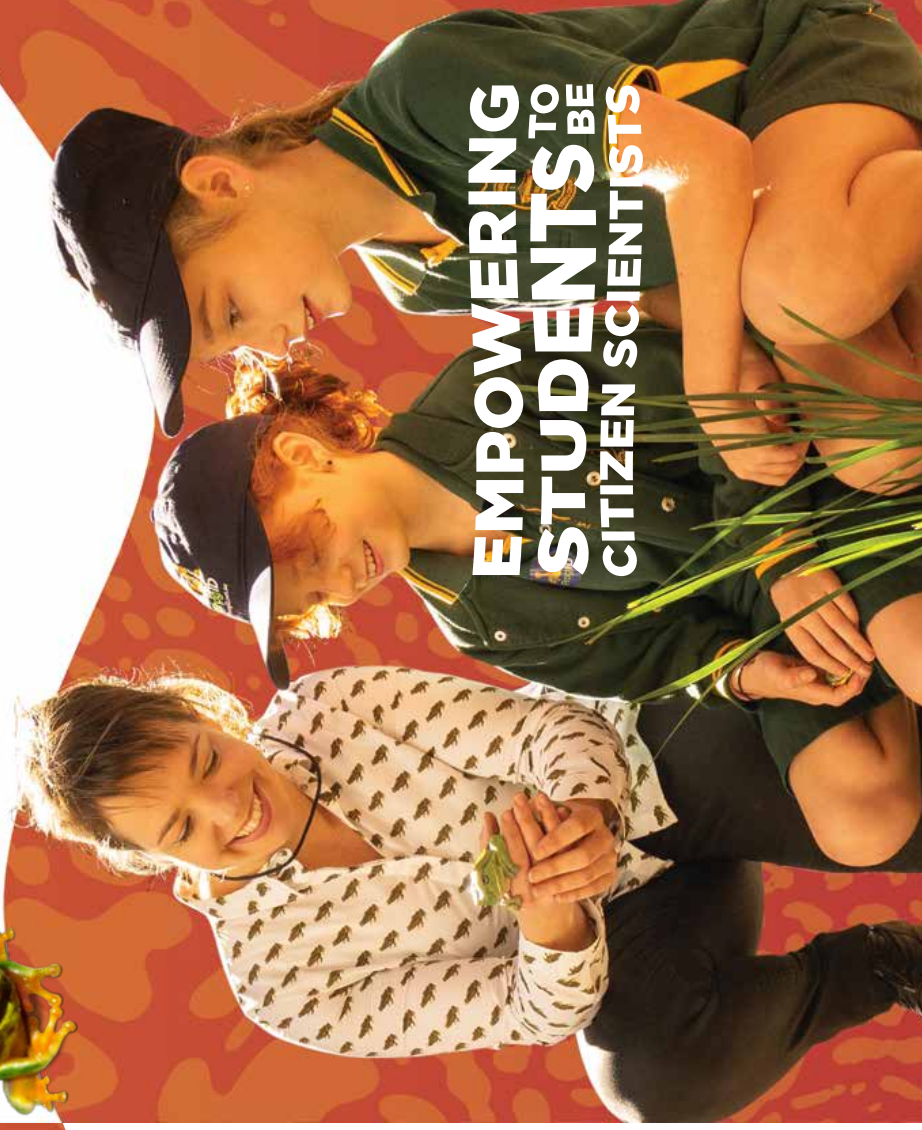
### National Frog Pond Building Project

The Australian Museum and Bunnings have partnered to engage schools across Australia and assist them in building 'frog-friendly' environments to help Australia's frog populations thrive. Contact the Activities Organiser at your local Bunnings to discuss the how you can get involved with the National Frog Pond Building Project.

[bunnings.com.au/stores](http://bunnings.com.au/stores)



# CREATE A FROG HABITAT



EMPOWERING  
STUDENTS TO BE  
CITIZEN SCIENTISTS

MAJOR PARTNER



An Australian Government Initiative



THIS PROJECT RECEIVED GRANT FUNDING FROM THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

PARTNER



SUPPORTING PARTNER



MUSEUM PARTNERS





# Follow these steps to create your own frog habitat



**1**

Download the **FrogID app** and use **Near Me** to find out which frog species are local to your area. To explore more visit [frogid.net.au](http://frogid.net.au)

**2**

**Select a site somewhere:**

- not too close to houses (frogs can be very noisy)
- not too close to big trees (tree roots can cause problems)
- with enough sun for plants to grow.

Stones on edge of pond help frogs to get in and out of the water

**Shallow water zone**

**Deep water zone**

**Damp zone**

Winter deep water level

Summer low water level

**3**

**Choose the type of frog habitat you want to build:**

**Liner frog pond**

- Find or create a habitat with shallow and deep areas of water
- Make the pond a minimum of 50cm in the deepest parts
- Add in rocks, pebbles and dirt to cover the bottom – so your frogs can easily get in and out
- Add mulch, leaf litter, rocks and logs around the outside to give your frogs somewhere to hide
- If you use a plastic pond liner, make sure it's not easily punctured.

**Revegetation of natural waterway**

Revitalise natural habitat by removing rubbish and weeds and replanting native vegetation.

**Above ground frog pond**

Make sure the vessel you choose is watertight and hasn't contained harmful chemicals.

**Pre-fabricated plastic frog pond**

Ensure you rinse your new plastic pond before you install it as frogs are sensitive to chemicals.

**4**

**Add native plants, including:**

- Tussock Sedges, Sedges and Nardoo for the shallow end
- Marsh Flower, Purple Loosestrife, Tassel Sedge and Water Ribbons for deeper areas
- Lomandra, Kangaroo Grass, Swamp Banksia, Saw-Leafed Sedge and Native Ginger for around the edges.

Check your local nursery for good native options for your area.

Logs and rocks in pond encourage good algal growth

**5**

**Add native fish**

They are great for mozzie control, but don't let them escape into the waterways.

**Don't** introduce frogs or tadpoles into your new habitat.

**Sit back and relax;** the frogs will come.

PVC pond liner

Sand

