

Literacy

Write a short story - “My Sister, the Tadpole”



Learning Intention

We are using our understanding of life cycles to create a story.

Introduction

Different groups of animal have different lifestyles, but what if things were different? We are so familiar with our life cycle of adults having babies, which grow in to children and then into adults.

Can you write a short story set in a world in which humans have a life cycle more similar to amphibians or insects? Mothers could lay eggs, and babies might pass through a tadpole stage!

How would this change your life at home? And how would it change school? Kids in year 1 might still have gills, and need to breathe underwater, while year 6 pupils could be growing front legs!

Story Starter

My sister, the tadpole.

“Keep the eggs wet, darling, or they’ll never hatch!” my mother reminded me. It was the first day of the school holidays, and I wondered how many days I would spend pouring rain water over the eggs that my mother had laid in the bath...

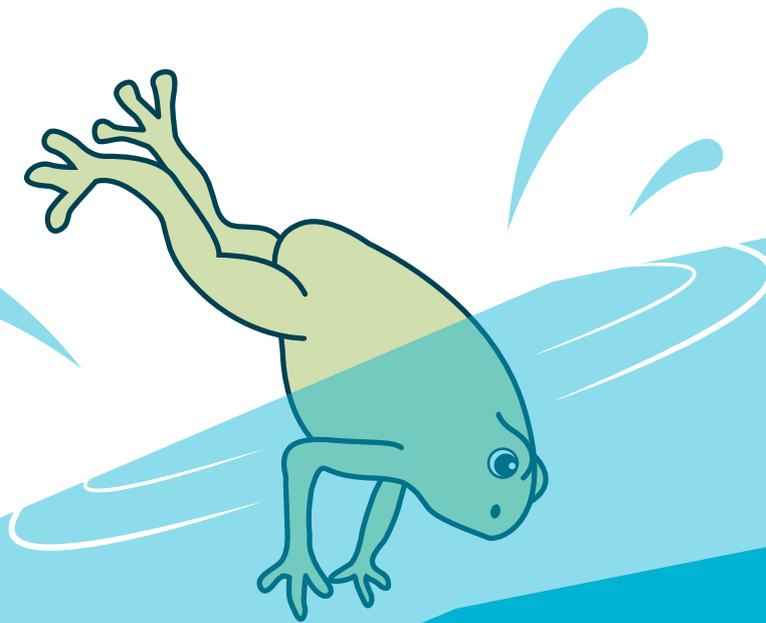


Remember

Amphibians lay soft, squishy eggs that don't have a shell, and must be kept in water or moist.



Reptiles generally lay eggs with a hard or leathery shell, on land. Some females will guard their nests



Super Challenge!

Can you write a haiku about amphibians?

Remember: 5 syllables in the first line, then 7 in the second, and 5 in the third. The best haiku have a 'cutting' word that creates a pause – often in the middle. An example would be this translation (which breaks the rules!) of an old haiku by Matsuo Basho:

*The old pond-
a frog jumps in,
sound of water.*