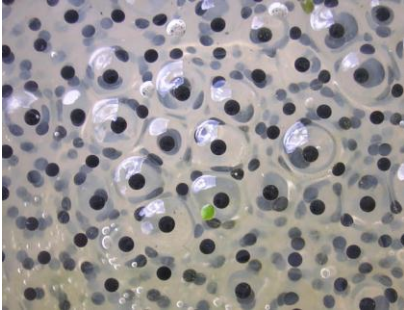


# Frogs

Frogs have a complete life cycle. This means that they have four separate stages in their life. Each stage is different from the other. Each stage serves a different purpose.



The first stage in a frog's life cycle is the egg. The mom lays many eggs. Some of the eggs will be eaten by birds and other small animals. Some of the eggs will dry up in the sun or get broken in the water. In 7 to 9 days the remaining eggs will hatch.



The second stage in a frog's life cycle is becoming a tadpole. A tadpole is a very small creature with gills, a tail and a mouth. The tadpole swims in and eats algae from the top of the water. As the tadpole grows it will develop teeth and skin over its gills. Tadpoles swim in schools like fish do.



The next stage of a frog life cycle is the froglet. After about nine weeks the tadpole will grow longer and a part of a head and legs will begin to show. At this point the frog is referred to as a froglet.



Frog metamorphosis is almost complete between nine and twelve weeks. The tadpole will lose its tail and grow a frog tongue. The tadpole now looks more like a small frog than a fish. At around 16 weeks the frog becomes an adult.