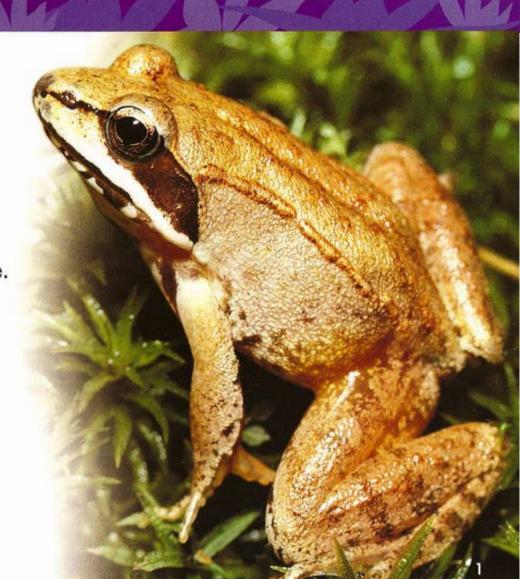
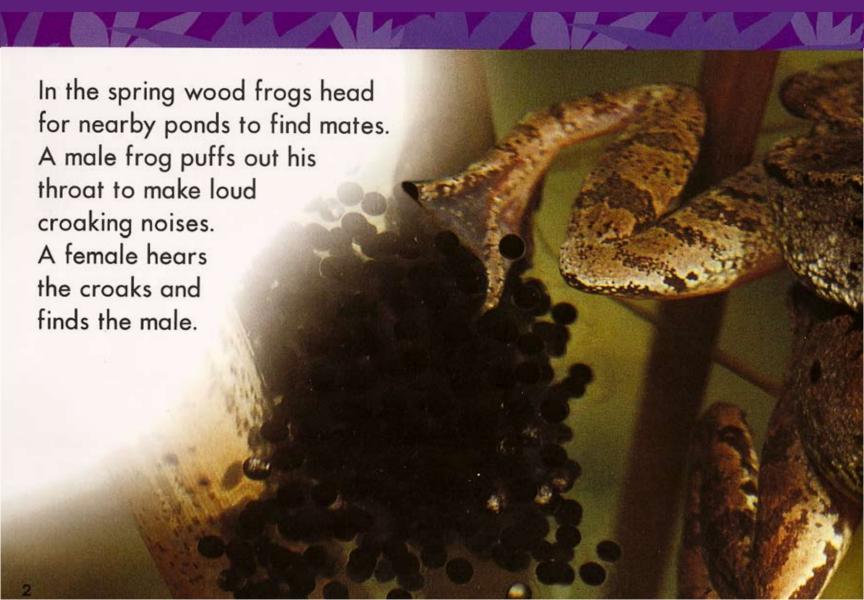
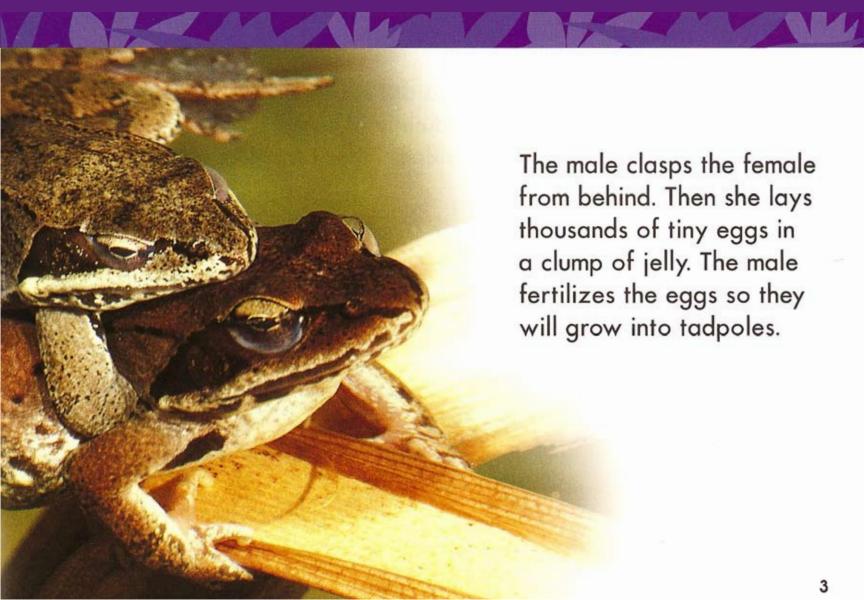
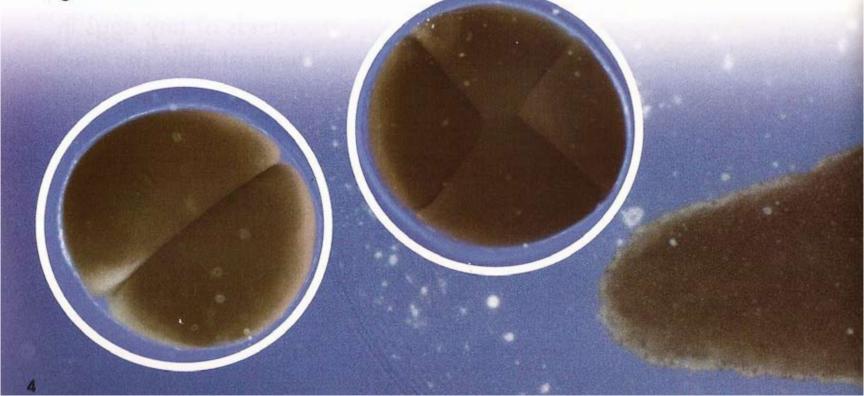
You are walking in the woods. Suddenly, a small brown frog hops across your path. Its hind legs are large and strong. It has bulging eyes, with a black patch behind each eye. This is a wood frog.







Each egg looks like a tiny dot. Each dot is one cell. After the egg is fertilized, the cell divides into two cells. Then each of those cells divides in two again, making four cells. Those four cells divide into eight cells.

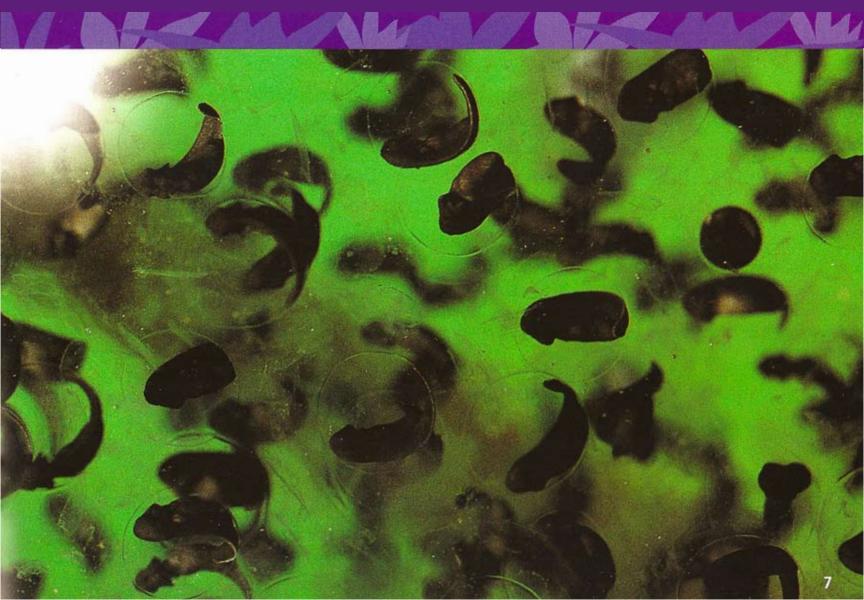


The cells keep dividing. Soon there are many of them in a long, thin shape. A tail forms at one end. A mouth forms at the other end. The cells have become a tiny tadpole.



The jelly is full of tiny tadpoles, or pollywogs. After about a week they are ready to wriggle free. Tadpoles look more like fish than frogs!





To swim, the tadpole waves its tail from side to side. It breathes underwater through gills, like a fish.

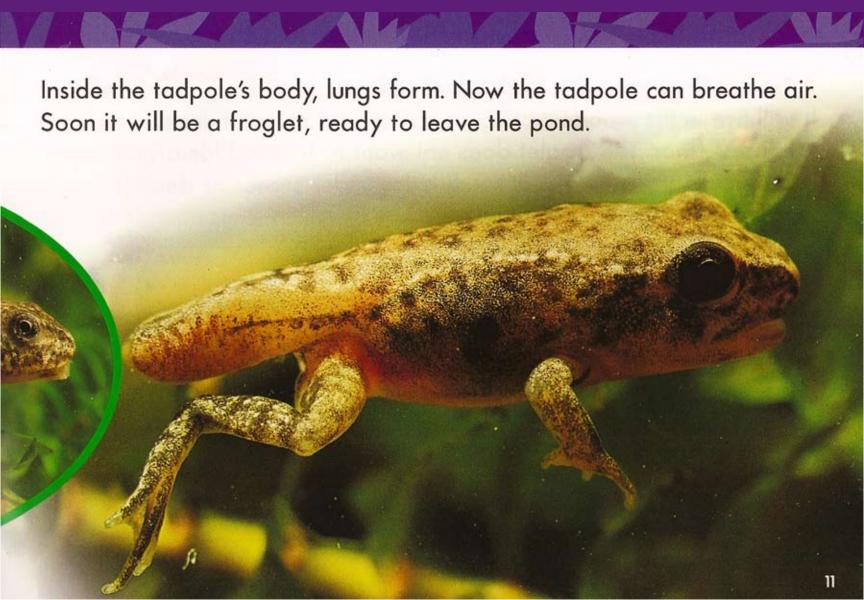


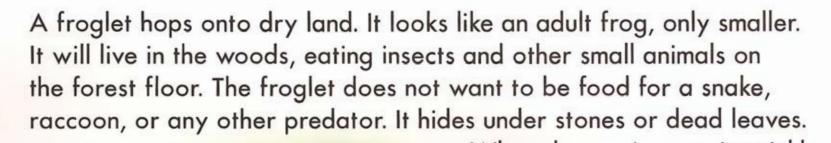
With its tiny teeth, the tadpole eats pond plants, like slimy green algae. Yum!



As the tadpole grows, its body changes. First hind legs appear, then front legs. The tadpole's tail begins to shrink.









In a few years the young frog will be an adult. One spring day it will hop to a woodland pond. It will find a mate and a new generation of wood frogs will be born.









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