

Frogs in the UK

Frogs are a common sight in the UK, especially near bodies of water such as ponds and lakes. They've been associated with fairy tales for centuries and are fascinating and well-loved by many people. But what are frogs?

What is a frog?

A frog is a tailless, short-bodied amphibian. There are more than 5000 species of frog in the world and this number is rising as scientists continue to find more. Frogs can be found on every continent apart from Antarctica. Frogs are most prevalent in South America, where hundreds of species can be found.

Appearance

Frogs found in the UK have smooth, moist skin and long legs, which help them to hop. They have protruding eyes and webbed hind feet. The markings on their skin help to camouflage from predators.

There are two frog species in the UK: the common frog and the pool frog.

Common Frog

The common frog is an olive-green or brown colour, with dark markings on the back and lighter ridges. It has a dark patch or 'mask' behind the eyes and dark bands of colour on the hind legs. It grows to around 9cm in length.

Pool Frog

The pool frog is brown or green with darker brown or black blotches. It usually has a lighter stripe running down the back. A ridge runs from each eye down the back. The pool frog is a similar size to the common frog. The male has a pair of vocal sacs which can be inflated and used to create a loud mating call. The pool frog was declared extinct in England in the mid-1990s but has since been reintroduced to sites in Norfolk.

Habitat

Frogs in the UK can be found in close proximity to fresh water in habitats that stay damp during the summer months, such as gardens with ponds. Being amphibians, frogs spend time both in water and on land. Typically, they spend their juvenile life in the water after hatching, then spend the majority of their adult life on land, returning to the water to breed.

Match the vocabulary to its meaning.

protruding

openly announced

predators

existing commonly

declared

animals that
prey on others

juvenile

sticking out

prevalent

young

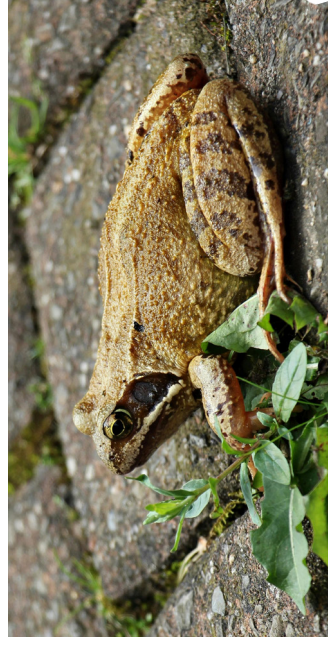
Summarise the main points in this extract
in 25 words or less.

What type of text is this?

How do you know?

On which continent will you not
find frogs?

Use the information to label the frogs.



This is an extract of the whole text. Write
down two more titles of paragraphs that
you might expect to see in this text.

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Summarise the main points in this extract in 25 words or less.

Frogs are amphibians, living in water and on land. There are two types of frogs in the UK. They are found near freshwater habitats.

What type of text is this?

How do you know?

This is a non-chronological report. It gives information about a subject and it is not in time order. It is written in the present tense and is formal. It is organised into paragraphs to help the reader find the information they need.

On which continent will you not find frogs?

Antarctica

Use the information to label the frogs.



common frog



pool frog

This is an extract of the whole text. Write down two more titles of paragraphs that you might expect to see in this text.

Any appropriate titles, for example:

- Diet
- Behaviour
- Life Cycle
- Conservation

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