Life Cycles



KEY FACT SHEETS

Amphibians

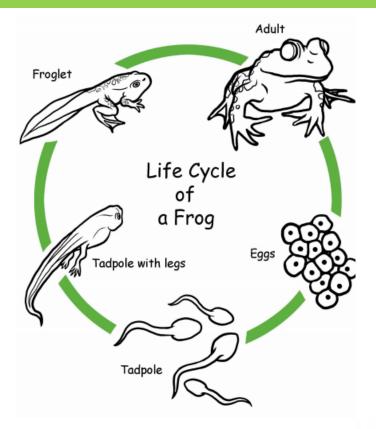
These are cold-blooded, smooth-skinned vertebrates which, during part or all of their lives, can move and breathe both on land and under water (the latter is usually early in their life cycle).

Insects

These are arthropods that have a body divided into three main parts: head, thorax and abdomen, an exoskeleton, 6 legs, 2 antennae and 2 pairs of wings. Note that both undergo metamorphosis during their life cycles. Complete metamorphosis is a stage in the growth of some animals in which the new form looks completely different from the old, e.g. in life cycles of butterflies and frogs, while some insects, e.g. grasshoppers and dragonflies, go through incomplete metamorphosis with repeated stages of growth and moulting called instars. The so-called nymphs resemble the adults but lack some features such as wings and sex organs (genitalia).

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