

PLUGGED IN

FUN FOR KIDS

A COOPERATIVE PROJECT OF THE SANTA BARBARA NEWS-PRESS AND THE EDUCATORS' ROUNDTABLE, PUBLISHED MONTHLY TO PROMOTE LEARNING AMONG YOUNG READERS IN NATURAL SCIENCE, HISTORY, TECHNOLOGY AND ART

This Month's Theme: Hopping to Survival!

Presented by the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History & Los Padres National Forest.

It's not easy being a frog. Challenges begin even before frogs hatch. Female frogs lay thousands of eggs and then most immediately abandon them. Few of these eggs, if any, have the chance of becoming adult frogs. Throughout each

stage of their life cycle — from EGG to TADPOLE to YOUNG FROG to ADULT FROG — frogs have to deal with some very tough conditions. Even if they do survive to adulthood, frogs face many obstacles in their environment.

GET connected connected

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 **USDA Forest Service, Los Padres National Forest**
805-968-6640
www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres

 **South Coast Railroad Museum**
805-964-3540; www.goletadepot.org

START

You lay eggs in a protected place, safe from predators. Move ahead 3 pads.

Tadpole

A bunch of flies land in the lily pad in front of you. Move ahead 1 pad.

Arroyo Toad

A thoughtless human drains car oil into a storm drain. Go back 3 pads.

Red-Legged Frog

Your coloring works as a camouflage to protect you. Move ahead 2 pads.

Bull Frog

Bull frogs are introduced into your habitat. Go back 1 pad.

Snake

Your neighbors use chemical fertilizers on their lawns. Go back 2 pads.

FINISH

The stream where you live has been cleared of litter and pollutants. Move ahead 2 pads.

You meet a hungry snake. Go back 2 pads.

Try being a frog and see if you can hop to survival. Here's how to play:

1. Cut out one of the frog tokens below.
2. Place your frog token at START on this game board.
3. Borrow a die from another game to use.
4. Roll the die and move your frog token the correct number of spaces to a lily pad.
5. Follow the directions on each lily pad you visit.
6. When you get to FINISH, give a big, loud CROAK because you've survived!

To learn everything you ever wanted to know about frogs, visit the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History to see the exhibit **Toadally Frogs!** The first 50 children to bring this page to the Museum will receive a FREE set of California Frog and Toad Trading Cards.



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