



Toadspawn

- Females release double strings of fertilised eggs unlike frogs that release in clumps.
- Usually release 1,500 eggs but can produce up to 5000!
- The jelly helps them float in the top layer where it's warmer in the pond and there is more oxygen.

Question: Have you got an example of frogspawn or toadspawn?



Tadpoles and Toadlets

- After 10 days tadpoles emerge.
- They eat as much as they can to grow bigger. They eat plant matter, bacteria, eggs, and mosquito larvae.
- They grow in length first then they lose their tails and grow legs. By 16 weeks they become toadlets. This is when they stop becoming aquatic and start to be considered terrestrial.

Question:

What do you think aquatic means?

If aquatic means relates to water what might terrestrial mean?



Adulthood

- Once they are adults they move out of their spawning pond.
- They enjoy their summer in woodlands, grasslands, hedgerows and gardens!
- They don't spend much time around or in water until it is time to breed again.
- In winter toads will often be found in gardens. They like to stay still saving energy but may emerge at night to hunt for slugs or snails.
- In spring they will make the journey back to the pond they started life in. If a male spots a female on the way then he might ride the rest of the way on her back!

Question:

What challenges might a toad face on the journey?