

Winter Guide to Tadpoles



Southern Leopard Frog (*Rana sphenoccephala*)

Size: \leq 3.5 in. (89 mm)

Usually olive green with mottling, but variable; vertical light stripe on snout between nostrils and also mustache



Gopher Frog (*Rana capito*)

Size: \leq 3.5 in. (89 mm)

Greenish or honey-colored body and translucent snout without vertical light center stripe or mustache



Pig Frog (*Rana grylio*)

Size: \leq 4.3 in. (110 mm)

Body mottled and throat black; tapered tail fin is clear or blotched with a dorsal row of small dark dots



Bullfrog (*Rana catesbeiana*)

Size: \leq 4.5 in. (114 mm)

Typically olive green with yellowish belly; may have small black dots on body and tail



Eastern Spadefoot (*Scaphiopus holbrookii*)

Size: $<$ 1.4 in. (35 mm)

Eyes dorsal; pointed, beak-like snout; broad, dark brown body w/ small, close set orange spots; belly clear or yellow



Southern Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris nigrita*)

Size: $<$ 1.4 in. (35 mm)

Side of tail muscle not bicolored; throat has dark reticulated pattern; dorsum dark to medium brown with pale dorso-lateral stripes and gold blotches; belly is coppery gold color



Ornate Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris ornata*)

Size: $<$ 2.6 in. (65 mm)

Eyes lateral; unpigmented throat; high, arched dorsal tail fin that originates on middle of back; fat, white belly; body reddish brown; bicolored tail muscle in smaller specimens



Spring Peeper (*Pseudacris crucifer*)

Size: $<$ 1.2 in. (30 mm)

Eyes lateral; dorsum of tail muscle may be crudely banded, uniformly dark, or mostly pale; throat speckled with widely spaced, large melanophores; dorsum uniformly medium brown to semi-transparent



Little Grass Frog (*Pseudacris ocularis*)

Size: \leq 0.9 in. (23 mm)

Lateral white stripe runs from body partly onto tail muscle; dark olive green body and pinkish belly; clear tail fin with large blotches along edge

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Photographs by Dirk Stevenson

