

Fascinating Facts about Pacific Chorus Frogs!

- Many are camouflaged on top to look like their surroundings to a predator that looks down from above: they can be green like a growing leaf or brown like a branch, or a mix of these colors. Some even have light colored bellies to look like the sky to a fish or diving bird that is looking up from below!



- Pacific Chorus Frogs are also known as Tree Frogs. They can change their color from green to brown and back again, to match their surroundings! Each change can take 1-3 days.
- Each frog has its own call, some are to attract a mate, others are to tell other frogs to stay away. The calls are made by puffing up sacs under their chin that blow up like bubble gum!
- The female Pacific Chorus Frog can lay 400-750 eggs each spring. After 10-12 days, the tadpoles hatch and begin swimming through the water in search of plants to eat. Tadpoles breathe through gills like a fish.
- Little by little over the next 8 weeks, tadpoles grow legs, their tail grows shorter until it disappears, and they grow lungs to replace their gills. When they become frogs, they eat insects just like their Mom and Dad!
- The Pacific Chorus Frog can snag food with its long, sticky tongue, jump over 20 times its length, and use the suction cups on its toes to cling to leaves and branches!
- Frogs have special chemicals in their skin to help keep away infections. Scientists may someday find a way to make chemicals like these for human beings! The reason we shouldn't pick up frogs is that we don't want anything on our skin to contaminate their skin protection.
- When people first began using scuba gear to dive underwater for long time underwater, they wore webbed flippers and were called 'Frogmen'.
- Frogs have a thin, see-through membrane that comes down over its eyes when they dive underwater. It's just like built-in swimming goggles!
- Even though adult frogs have lungs, they breathe very differently than we do. They gulp in a big mouthful of air and then force it into their lungs by pushing down with the muscles in their throat. Try to see if you can breathe this way!
- Frogs can also breathe through their skin. When they are cold or hibernating, they stop using their lungs for breathing and absorb oxygen through their skin.