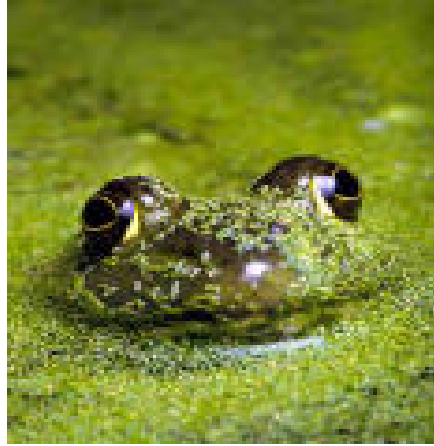


# Bullfrog



## What do bullfrogs look like?

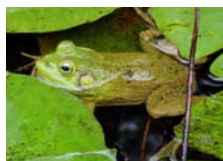
Typically, bullfrogs reach up to eight inches in length measured from snout to vent). The overall coloration is green or gray brown with brown spots, especially on older bullfrogs. Some brown, yellow, albino and even blue individuals have been observed. Adults have a round eardrum, called the tympanum, located on either side of the head. The tympanum is up to twice as large as the eye. A ridge of skin starts behind the eye, runs over the eardrum, and ends at the base of the front legs. The hind legs are large and powerful and may be banded or blotched with brown. Males have a singular throat pouch that is pale to bright yellow. Females have a white throat.

## What habitat does the bullfrog like?

Bullfrogs occupy permanent freshwater habitats such as ponds, rivers, lakes, reservoirs, marshes, stock ponds, ditches and irrigation canals. They may be found in deep or shallow water.

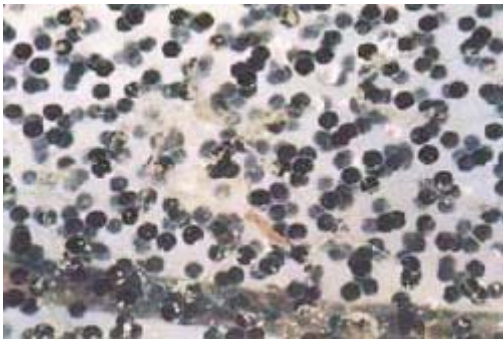
## What does a bullfrog eat?

Bullfrogs generally sit and wait for a meal to pass or land nearby. They lunge or leap forward with mouths open wide to catch prey. The bulk of a bullfrog's diet is insects, spiders, crayfish and other invertebrates, but they may also consume mice, small turtles, fish, snakes (including rattlesnakes), birds and other amphibians. A bullfrog will eat about anything it can get in its mouth.



## What are the mating habits of the bullfrog?

The female bullfrog generally lays eggs only once a year, producing as many as 20,000 eggs at a time. The egg masses are huge, resembling semifloating mats of small bubbles. The masses are attached by "strings" to submerged vegetation. Although the females lay their eggs in the warmer months of summer, they deposit the eggs in the cooler portions of the pond. Water temperatures above 82 degrees Fahrenheit may cause the eggs to develop abnormally.



Bullfrog eggs develop into tadpoles. These tadpoles will stay tadpoles for 2-3 years before developing into bullfrogs.



## How do bullfrogs communicate?

Chorusing bullfrogs (males) make a deep "jug-o-rum" call during the day or night. When startled, bullfrogs – make a sharp "eep!" call. They hop to safety in a series of long leaps, their movement resembling a stone skipping across the water.

