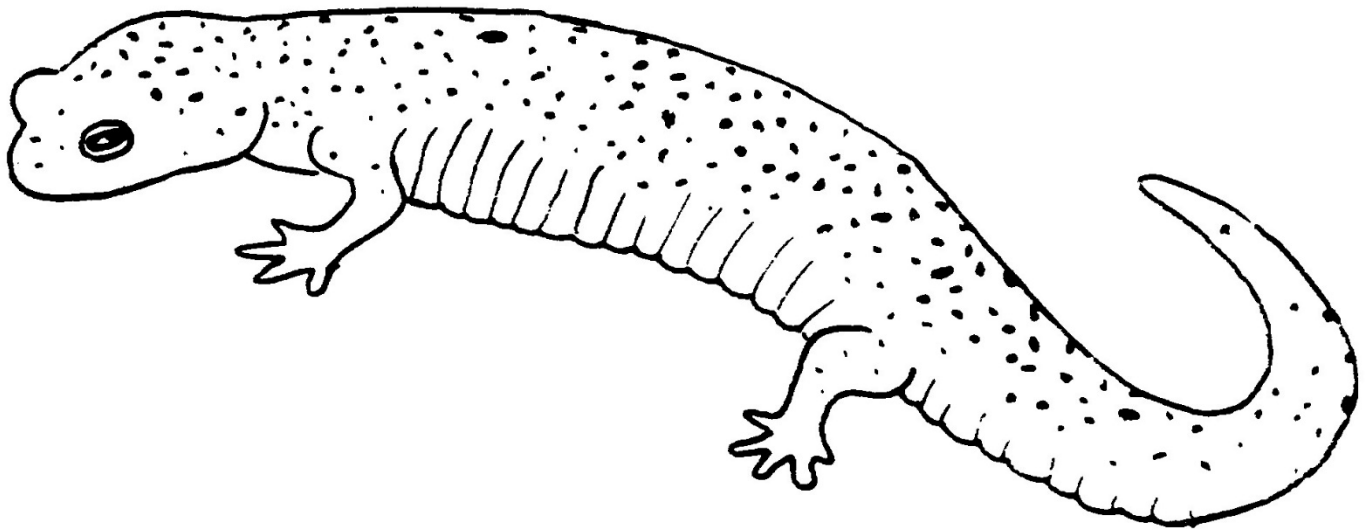




PA's Amphibian and Reptile Coloring Series

Northern Red Salamander



All About Me: Hello! I'm a Northern Red Salamander. We are medium-sized as salamanders go and grow from 4 to 6 inches long. Red is our primary body color; however, we can vary from reddish-brown to orange-brown. Adults tend to be darker in color than younger ones. Our color fades from dark on our backs to a lighter color on our bellies. Our backs are dotted with numerous jet-black spots. Small dark spots may appear on our bellies. Our bodies are stocky and our legs and tail are proportionately shorter compared to other salamanders. Sixteen to 17 costal grooves mark our sides. We can be found in all of the state's 67 counties. We prefer to live around small streams and spring runs with bottoms of sand or gravel and rock, with water that is clear and cool. We avoid stagnant ponds or pools while seeking out bubbly springs and seepages. We are partly terrestrial, and we may roam away from water. Woodlands, swamps and meadows offer refuge to us as amphibians. We like to dwell beneath logs, stones and clumps of moss. We prey on many types of invertebrates, and we find earthworms especially delicious!