



Hop to It!

Below are three groups of facts about Pennsylvania's amphibians.

Which group of fast facts belongs to the frogs, toads or both? On the blank line at the top of each column, label it with the correct word—"Frogs," "Toads" or "Both."

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- Dry, warty skin suited to live in dry habitats
- Short legs for hopping
- Active hunter that crawls, flicks out its long, sticky tongue to reach and catch prey
- Long, sticky tongue is attached to the front of its mouth
- Hibernates on land by using their back legs to dig deep burrows in leaf litter or soft soil
- Eggs usually laid in strings
- Secretes a poison from parotoid glands when an animal bites them

- Can breathe through their skin
- Have vocal chords to produce calls
- Ectothermic (body temperature changes with the temperature around them)
- Have a tympanum (external ear drum)
- As tadpoles, they eat algae, but they soon turn into predators, eating mostly insects, spiders and worms.
- Vertebrates (have a backbone)
- Go through metamorphosis

- Smooth skin
- Long legs for leaping
- Ambushes prey with a sudden leap, and grabs prey with its sticky tongue
- Tongue is attached to the back of its mouth
- Hibernates in water, under mud or leaves at the bottom of streams or ponds
- Eggs laid in clusters
- Lives in damp or wet habitats, because skin must stay moist