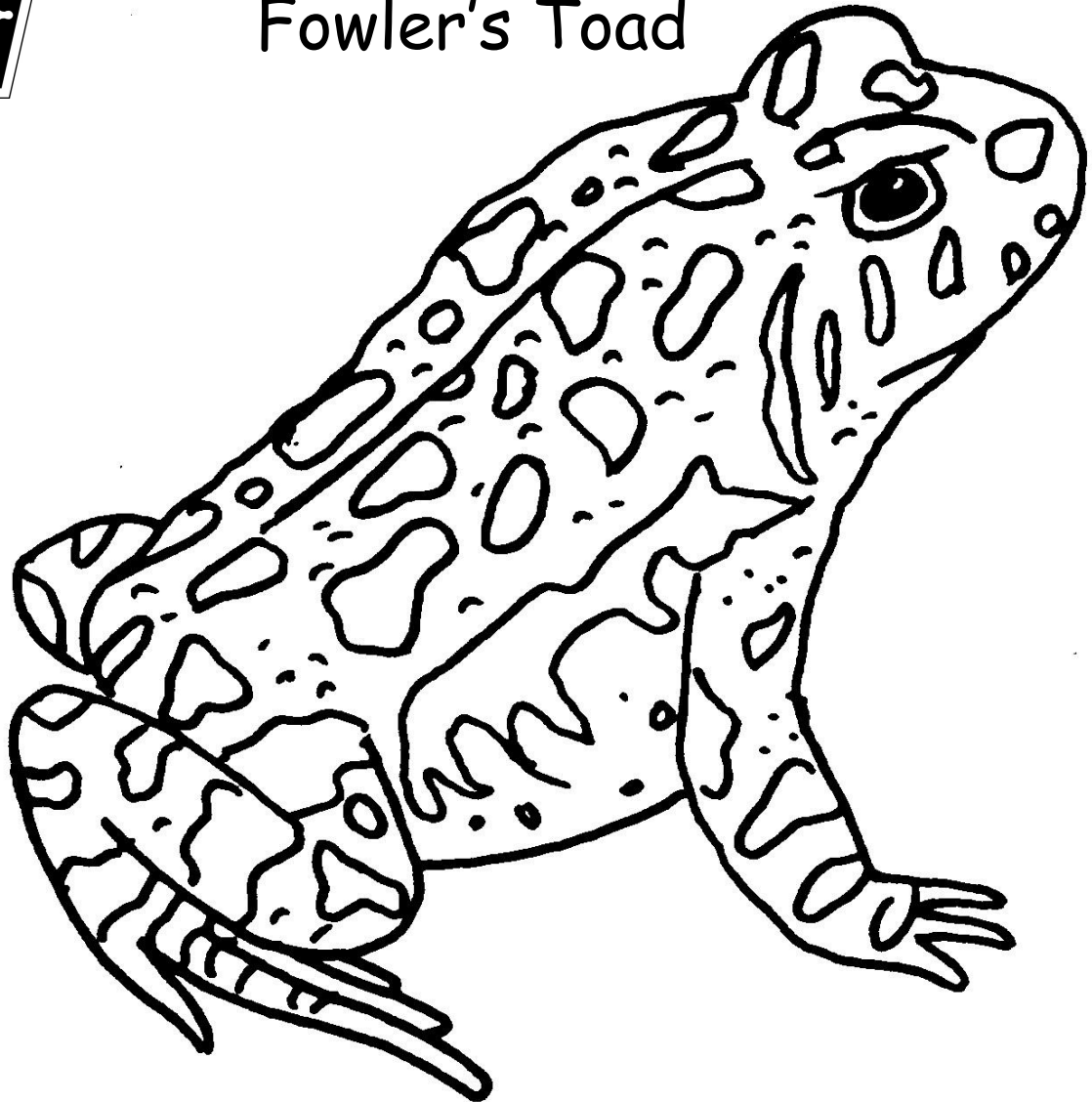




PA's Amphibian and Reptile Coloring Series

Fowler's Toad



All About Me: Hi! I am a Fowler's Toad. We are nocturnal and rest during the day when we burrow into the ground or under grass clumps. We are more slender and agile than American toads. Adults average two to three inches long. Our skin is dry and brown, gray or occasionally green. A light, white stripe runs down the middle of our backs. Large dark spots or blotches, arranged in pairs, cover our backs. Our largest spots contain at least three warts. Our bellies are white. Small warts cover our thighs. Our parotoid glands (behind our eyes) are elongated. These glands are kidney-shaped on American toads. Our eyes have horizontally oval pupils with bright yellow irises. We mostly live in PA only in the southern two-thirds of the state, but we can be found around Lake Erie too. We like lowlands with sandy soils along the edge of a waterway; however, marshes and vernal pools can be suitable. Males start calling around late March. Calling usually is done from shallow water. Our call sounds like a sheep and lasts from one to four seconds. We hunt at night for insects around gardens and flower beds.