



Tadpole Transformation

(Art, Science)

Students make a paper tadpole puppet that turns into a frog and learn the meaning of the term *metamorphosis*.

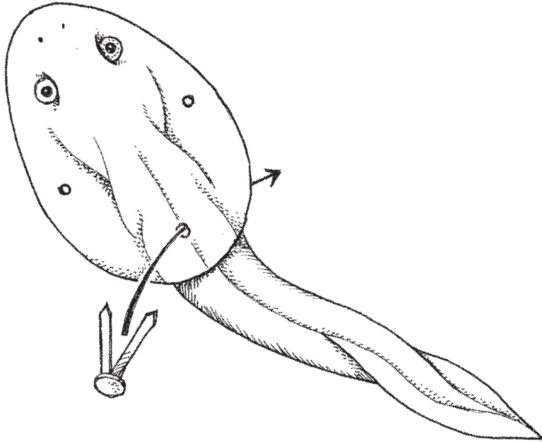
Make a copy of page 23 for each student. Begin by discussing a frog's metamorphosis, the process of changing from a larva (tadpole) into an adult (frog). *Meta* means "change" and *morph* means "shape." Show students pictures of frog eggs, tadpoles in various stages, froglets, and full-grown frogs.

Explain that once the tadpoles hatch from the eggs, they have gills to breathe with and a long tail. Eventually, the tadpole transforms into a froglet, a small adult frog with four legs, no gills, and no tail.

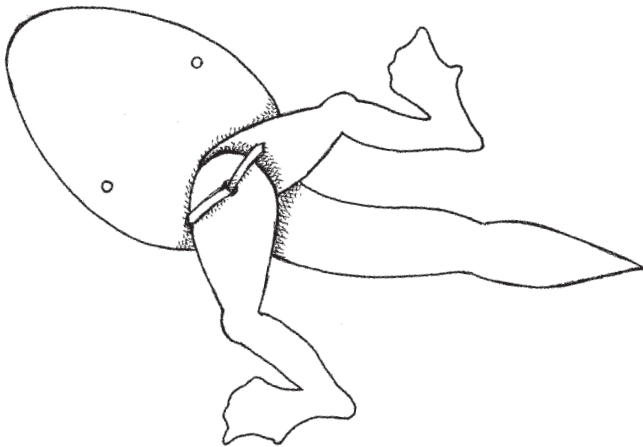
After kids have colored the frog and tadpole body parts on page 23, help them fill in the blanks to spell *metamorphosis*. Then help them cut out the pieces along the solid lines. (To make the pieces sturdier, glue them to thin cardboard before cutting them out.) The spots marked with an asterisk show where to punch holes for the paper fasteners. Guide students through the stages of assembling the tadpole and frog:



1 Attach the tail to the body as shown to make the tadpole.

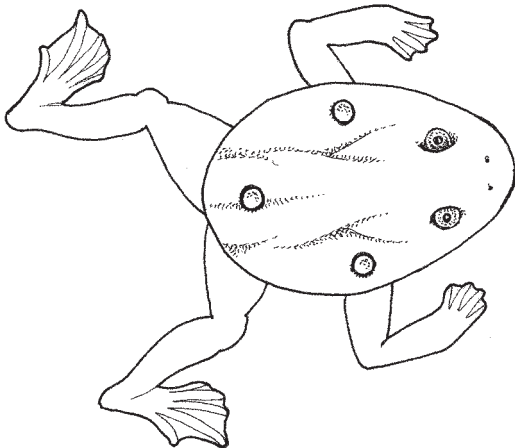


2 Attach the two hind legs in the same place as the tail.



3 Attach the two front legs.

4 Remove the tail to make the froglet.



Invite students to arrange puppets in various stages of frog development and line them up in the correct sequence.



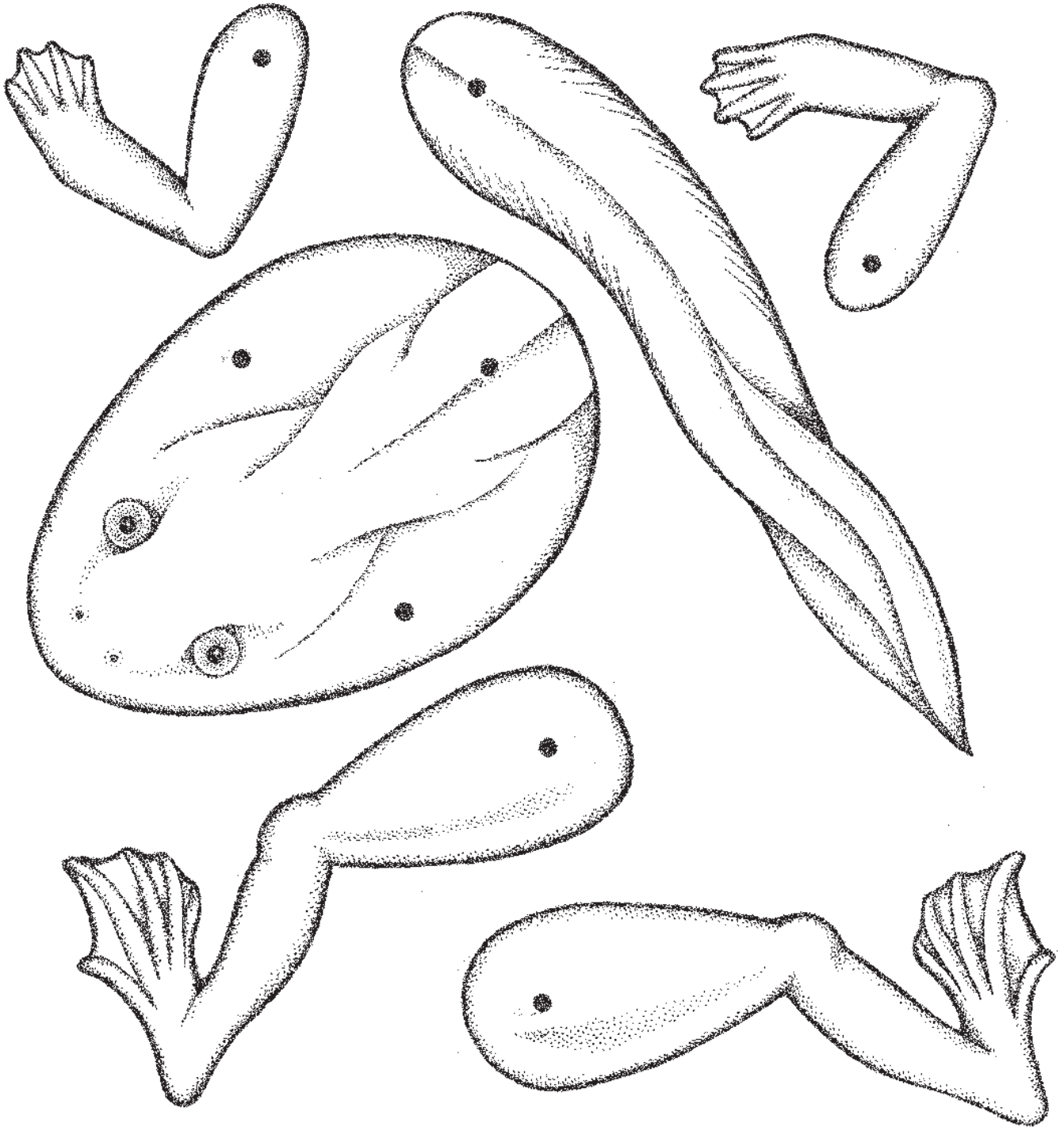
Frogs (First Discovery Book) by Daniel Moignot (Scholastic, 1997) will come in handy when discussing metamorphosis. The see-through pages and detailed art make the progression from egg to tadpole to frog easy for children to follow.



Name _____ Date _____

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Color the pieces and cut them out.



When a tadpole changes into a frog,
the process is called _____