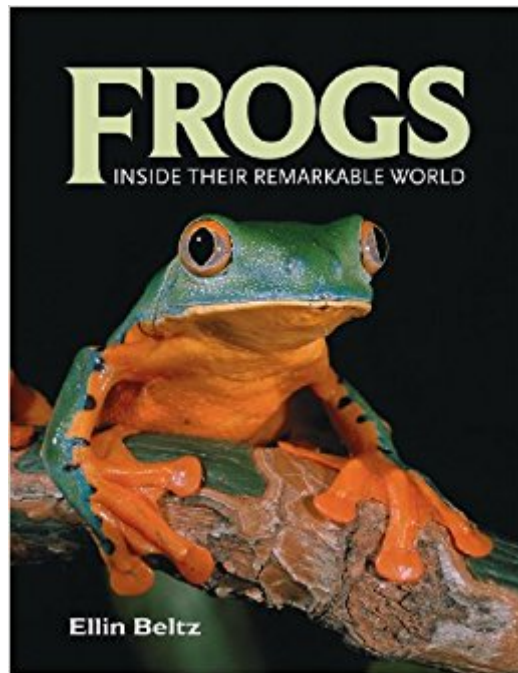




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# Frogs: Inside Their Remarkable World



## Synopsis

Frogs and toads provide one of the great animal success stories on Earth. In this comprehensive book, renowned herpetologist Ellin Beltz offers a compelling picture of the history of the frog, its anatomical makeup, its place in the natural world and the threats that are seriously reducing its numbers around the world. Today, frogs are found on most islands around the world and on all continents except Antarctica. Frogs live from the warmest and wettest tropical lowlands to about 17,000 feet above sea level in the Himalayas. Some areas of Earth have more frogs than others, but frogs are true survivors. But it isn't easy being green. This hearty amphibian lives both on land and in the water and is exposed to a host of chemical and environmental threats. The frog is an animal that indicates the overall health of the environment in which it lives. It is not too much to say that "as goes the frog, so goes the swamp," and even perhaps the planet. Frogs contains a detailed look at all 31 frog families, allowing the reader to learn more about specific ones and appreciate the range and diversity of this popular amphibian. And, yes, toads are covered here, too. There is also a fascinating section on frogs in myth and culture, showing the place frogs have occupied in art and literature. This handsome book is lavishly illustrated with over 125 color photographs representing the remarkable range and world of an utterly fascinating creature.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Frogs are cool. How else can we explain the human fascination with these tailless amphibians? Herpetologist Beltz presents an entertaining and comprehensive introduction to the order Anura

(frogs and toads). Frogs are found on every continent except Antarctica and in virtually every habitat that has access to water. This worldwide distribution means that just about anyone can recognize a frog. Beginning with a brief look at the natural history of frogs, the author then delivers a thorough look at all of the families of frogs. An extensive chapter on anatomy and physiology also covers the wonder of metamorphosis, and the discussion of adaptation and environment includes an extensive section on the current plight of amphibians, with many species vanishing. The final chapter is a brief look at frogs in myth and culture. A nice appendix of frog miscellany (largest frog, most toxic toad) and a glossary complete a beautifully illustrated primer. Nancy Bent Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Absolutely fascinating, even to the non-naturalist... Such is the subtle lure of *Frogs: Inside Their Remarkable World*, a book that seduces the reader with intriguing textual detail and marvelous up-close photography. (Animal Keepers' Forum [Journal of American Zookeep]) A great book for nature enthusiasts young and old. ... *Frogs* is a feast for the eyes and the mind. A great reference book for any home or cottage (The Cottager (cottager.com)) Filled with valuable information, yet not overly technical. This makes the book extremely useful with a flowing style for easy reading, and keep[s] the reader captivated.... An excellent book for anyone having a budding interest in anuran biology, and herpetology in general. (Harlan D. Walley and Theresa L. Wusterbarth, *Depar Bulletin of the Maryland Herpetological Society*) Fascinating. The colour photographs of frog around the world are beautiful. (N. Glenn Perrell *Sideroads of Caledon*) Many interesting facts... a comprehensive look. (Wildlife Activist) The color pictures of frogs and toads are startling in their beauty and intrigue... clearly written text... an easy book to enjoy and savor. (James W. Waddick *Science Books and Films*) An excellent overview... well written, albeit on a popular level, and it is copiously illustrated with eye-catching color photographs. (C.E. Buckley *Choice*) 125 stunning color photographs... unveils a remarkable amphibian world... [This book] will convince you that frogs are amazing. (Whit Gibbons Aiken *Standard* 2006-02-05) Wonderful... easy-to-read and comprehensive... concise, well written and well-illustrated summary of the order Anura that is accurate and informative but not overly technical. (James N. Stuart *Bulletin of the Chicago Herpetological Society*) A comprehensive guide to all 31 families of frogs. Spectacular full-color photographs... This book can be enjoyed by readers of all ages. (Science News 2006-08-20) The one-two delivery of information and fascinating photographs is a great deal. (Sharon Wootton *Olympia Olympian* 2005-11-05) An engaging and informative guide... illustrated with hundreds of brilliant color photographs. (Globe and Mail 2005-10-29) An entertaining and comprehensive

introduction... a beautifully illustrated primer. (Nancy Bent Booklist)

I needed more references and resources on frogs to assist my in drawing them and later turning that drawing into fabric for art quilts. I have several books referencing different animals/amphibians and this one was extremely helpful as a resource for my needs.

When friends visit, this is the most popular book they browse off my shelf. The writing describes in detail the diversity and lifecycle of frogs in nature, and the human perception of frogs in history and modern times, and the effect that humans have had on frog populations. To top it off, the photos are simply spectacular, and would be worth the price of the book all by themselves.

A great book - beautiful pictures and interesting, easy to understand text. A must for frog & toad lovers everywhere.

Ellin Beltz has written a compelling, colorful, and accessible volume that will give the reader a true appreciation for frogs and a lot of useful information - even for those who thought they already knew quite a bit about frogs! Children will certainly enjoy the beautiful photos of frogs, but this is not a children's book; reading and understanding the text will require at least a "middle school" to high school level of comprehension. This book can stand as an introduction to the subject for the layperson with only a basic knowledge of biology, and the more advanced reader will find this book a good reference on anuran biology and diversity. Anyone with an interest in nature will find it entertaining, and perhaps a little disturbing, considering the frequent notes and comments on the decline and disappearance of many frog species. The author places considerable emphasis on the long historical (and mythological) relationship between frogs and humans, relations which usually turn out to the detriment of frogs. Yes, there are other colorful books on frogs and amphibians- you need this one too!

This is a book that one truly can judge by its inviting cover, since the pages are every bit as captivating. The text is filled with authoritative information, presented in an accessible, even lively, style. Every frog family makes an appearance in a spectacular album, along with extraordinary facts - some fascinating, others heart-breaking. As a frog-o-phile of nearly four decades I was delighted to receive *Frogs: Inside Their Remarkable World*, which is filled with extraordinary photographs of unusual creatures along with familiar friends. How nice to see that such a high-quality book is not a

rare species.

This beautiful, comprehensive guide to Frogworld is candy for the eyes and food for the brain. And when you're done reading it, you may find it too beautiful to stick on a shelf. Ellin Beltz loves frogs, and it is impossible to read this rich book without catching her enthusiasm. Who can resist a chapter on Frogs in Myth and Culture that celebrates everything from the frog shaped amulets of Sumer and the Aztec toad goddess, right alongside the Budweiser frogs, Michigan J. Frog, and possibly the most famous frog ever, Kermit! Beltz makes it clear that frogs have always had an important place in human society.

Booklist said it best "Frogs are cool." They are also wierd. What is great about Herpetologist Beltz's books is that she fully knows both, but leans a bit on wierd side. You'll learn everything you want to know about frogs, biology to mythology, but you will also see photos never before shown anywhere of frogs doing, well, not exactly froggy things.

My husband and I received this as a gift. Although we had started to get tired of people giving us frog gifts, we really are so glad we got this book. It has tons of great looking colored photos of all kinds of different frogs, but also provides information as well. It's not too bulky, and looks great on the cofee table. I highly recommend this book to anyone who loves frogs.

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