



Toads and Frogs of

NY

A Guessing Game

BY IROQUOIS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE



Can you guess the
species based on
picture and facts?

Who am I?



- ▶ I range in size from 2-3.5 inches
- ▶ My tadpole are recognizable by their very thin tails in relation to the size of their jet black bodies.
- ▶ Some people confuse me with a species that looks similar but my call gives me away

Bet you thought I was the other toad



- ▶ I am much more common in southern NY and Long island Though I have been seen in Erie county.
- ▶ I look very similar to the first toad and the easiest way to tell me apart from that toad is that my belly is rarely spotted
 - ▶ Unlike the previous specimen, the gland behind my eye (parotid gland) touches my "shoulder" (postorbital) ridge

I am not who you think

- ▶ I am easily recognizable by the dark colored “mask” around my eyes
- ▶ I am very tolerant to the cold and can survive freezing temperatures.
 - ▶ I slow my metabolism and filling my body with a large amount of glucose, a natural “anti-freeze”



You Know Me by My Sound



- ▶ Some people confuse me for the frog you just saw but I don't have a mask
- ▶ Though I am a frog I spend most of my time on land, going into the water to breed and lay eggs.
- ▶ I make one of the most recognizable sounds of spring

Look for my Stripes



- ▶ I can be found in a variety of habitats, but mostly in Western and Northern NY, Near the shores of Lake Ontario.
- ▶ I am most recognizable by the pale gray color and the 3 dark stripes down my back
- ▶ Males of my species have a yellow vocal sac

Nope I'm not that Frog



- ▶ I am one of the most abundant frogs in NY.
- ▶ I can have up to 6 different calls and oftentimes a much larger frog that shares my ranges, gets all the credit for my call!
- ▶ I often have spots all over and range from green to bronze.
- ▶ You can identify me by the ridge (dorsolateral fold) on either side that runs almost the full length of my back

You Surely Know Who I am



- ▶ I am the LARGEST frog in North America
- ▶ I find and defend my territory from all other frogs
- ▶ I can jump up to 15 times my body length!
- ▶ You might think I eat just about anything and it's true!
 - ▶ I've been known to eat rodents, bats, other frogs and even snakes!

You Know my Name Because of my Spots

- ▶ I am also really common in NY, found almost everywhere except Long Island
- ▶ I need 3 different habitats to live
 - ▶ I like permanent water for wintering
 - ▶ Marshes for breeding
 - ▶ Fields for foraging
- ▶ I too will eat anything that fits in my mouth
- ▶ I have been known to call loudly when caught by a predator or human



Aren't I just the cutest?



- ▶ Some people think I am the cutest frog in the state
- ▶ During the day I may be found sleeping in tree branches or on leaves
- ▶ My toes have sticky pads that help me climb all kinds of surfaces

Image Citations

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Answer Key



← Eastern American toad
Anaxyrus americanus



Fowler's toad →
Anaxyrus fowleri

Northern Spring peeper
Pseudacris crucifer



Wood frog
Lithobates sylvaticus

Western Chorus frog
Pseudacris triseriata



Northern Green Frog
Lithobates clamitans



American Bullfrog
Lithobates catesbeiana



**Northern
Leopard Frog**
*Lithobates
pipiens*



**Gray
Treefrog**
Hyla versicolor