



WILDLIFE FACTFLIE: The Common Frog

The common frog (*Rana temporaria*) is one of our most well-known amphibians, a regular visitor to garden ponds, helping to clear out slugs and snails. They breed in ponds during the spring and can be found in woodland, gardens, hedgerows and grasslands for the rest of the year. They feed on a range of invertebrates and small amphibians between February and April and hibernate in pond mud or under log piles during the winter. The common frog can be found in a wide range of colours, including green, brown, red or yellow. They have smooth skin, a dark 'mask' behind their eyes and long back legs that are covered in dark bands. These frogs can be seen hopping or jumping, rather than walking, and lay frogspawn in large clumps in ponds. Common frogs can be found throughout the UK, except for some Scottish islands, some of the Isles of Scilly and the Channel Islands.

Common frogs are not endangered but are protected in the UK under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981. We can do our bit to help preserve frog populations by protecting and managing the freshwater habitats they breed in.

DID YOU KNOW?

A female frog can lay up to 4,000 eggs in one spring!

