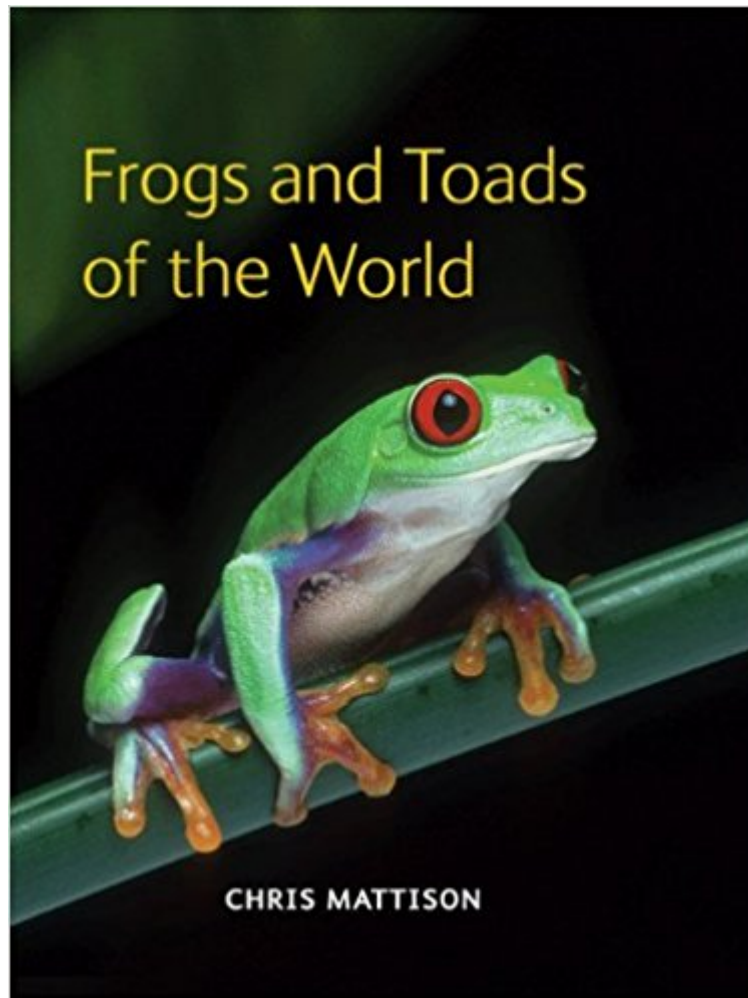




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Frogs And Toads Of The World



Synopsis

With nearly 6,000 species currently identified, frogs and toads are the most familiar and abundant amphibians on the planet. *Frogs and Toads of the World* is a comprehensive guide to the natural history of this large and diverse group of creatures. Stunningly illustrated throughout with 200 color photographs, this one-of-a-kind book traces the evolution and classification of frogs and toads, providing detailed information about each of the 49 unique families and highlighting distinctive and notable species. It vividly describes their remarkable diversity in shape, color, and markings; anatomy and development; life cycle; habitats; the various methods they use to attract mates and hunt for food; and the physiological and behavioral tricks they use to survive and thrive around the world. This indispensable guide also explores frogs' interaction with humans, from modern-day collection for the meat trade, scientific research, and the trade in exotic pets to how their survival is being threatened by habitat destruction, climate change, and disease. A comprehensive guide to the natural history of frogs and toads. Features 200 stunning color photographs. Covers each of the 49 unique frog families. Describes anatomy, life cycle, habitats, survival tricks, and more.

Book Information

Hardcover: 192 pages

Publisher: Princeton University Press (May 22, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0691149682

ISBN-13: 978-0691149684

Product Dimensions: 7.9 x 0.8 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.9 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,243,289 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #45 in [Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Zoology > Amphibians](#) #122 in [Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Zoology > Invertebrates](#) #202 in [Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Zoology > Ichthyology](#)

Customer Reviews

One of Choice's Outstanding Academic Titles for 2011 "This is an overview of one of the most baffling, diverse and astonishing of all animal groups."--Cathy Taibbi, Examiner, National wildlife conservation "Fascinating. . . . [Frogs and Toads of the World] provides a great gateway for anyone interested in learning about these creatures. . . . Mattison's book details what frogs eat and what

eats frogs, their reproductive cycle and what kind of parents they are."--Tom Palmer, Lakeland Ledger

Naturalist and author-photographer Mattison has once again produced an excellent book related to his specialization in amphibians and reptiles. This volume is a colorful, entertaining overview of many of the nearly 6,000 species of frogs worldwide. . . . All chapters are superbly illustrated with high-quality color photographs not frequently seen in books on animals."--Choice

[T]his book [is] a wonderful description of all aspects of frogs and toads. It is well written, well organized, well illustrated with color photographs and it is a good read for those interested in this unique group of amphibians. [This] book [is] well worth owning if you have an interest in nature in general and frogs in particular."--REH, Wildlife Activist

All sections of this book are lavishly illustrated with some of the finest color photographs of frogs yet to appear in the literature. This book is easy to read and comprehend, highly informative, accurate, and as up to date as possible in an era dominated by changes due to new molecular insights. This work is highly recommended for purchase by municipal, high school, and college libraries."--Edmund D. Keiser, Jr., American Reference Books Annual

[Frogs and Toads of the World] has a lot to offer the general naturalist and the birder interested in amphibians and learning what else is in that local patch pond."--Donna Schulman, 10,000 Birds

[S]tunningly illustrated throughout . . . indispensable guide. . . A good general introduction on the subject."--Ian, Guardian Birdbooker Report

Chris Mattison is a natural history writer and photographer who specializes in reptiles and amphibians. His many books include *The New Encyclopedia of Snakes* (Princeton). His photography regularly appears in books and magazines throughout the world.

excellent fun great pix enjoying this book

Frogs and toads is an interesting book. It is complete with good pictures. Light reading but really well done book

I am one of those that have had a fascination with amphibians and reptiles since I was a very small child. The first poem I wrote, or made up, was about lizards. I was about four years old. It read: There were five lizards on a wall. One fell down, And that is all. Anyway, you might refer to me as a frog or snake geek, a title I proudly acknowledge. I have been reading about, collecting, photographing and studying these wonderful creatures for almost seven decades now. Of all the general works I have read throughout the years, the book being reviewed here stands toward the

top of the list when it comes to readability, informative and visually delightful. Quite a task the author and photographer has taken on here. I note that the product description here states that there are nearly 6,000 known species of frogs and toads in the world and this is true although the true number is unknown and quite likely over 6,000 as I write this. And that is one of the problems. We are finding and identifying new species each year but at the same time species are becoming completely extinct at even a faster pace. More about that later....Now be sure that you note that this book IS NOT a field guide by any means. No, it is a work which compiles data, facts and observations on numerous species but in general is an overall overview. The book is broken down into the following chapters: Origins and Classification, Size and Shape, colour and markings, Interactions with the physical environment, Enemies and defence, Food and Feeding, Reproduction, Life-cycles, Habitat and Distribution, Frogs and man, And...The families which is a 54 page section which describes the characteristics of the 49 families of frogs. There are plenty of color and black and white photographs in this work - over 200 and all extremely well done. The text is quite readable and one does not need an advanced degree in biology or zoology to understand precisely what the author has to say. I realize this will not be the case for everyone, but to be honest, for me this one is a page turner! If you have an interest in these strange and wonderful creatures, then this is a book you want on your shelf. If you have no interest you might want to read it anyway...hey, this is the sort of book that is capable of striking a spark you may not be aware of.

End of Review:

And now the rant: As of about three years ago at least 1,626 species of frogs and toads were on the endangered list. This number has increased. Each year we lose via extinction several species of these creatures. Amphibians are one of the creatures that we use as gauges to evaluate the health of our environment. Folks, we are in big trouble! I know from personal observation here in the Missouri Ozarks that frogs have been on a steep decline for at least three or four decades now. I recently did a night wade of several streams that I use to wade as a youth. Were as in those past years I could spot and identify over 100 frogs in a half mile stretch of stream back in the 1950s, I encountered only five or six frogs over those same stretches. The large bullfrogs which were so prevalent in the past have almost vanished and those that are found are pathetic specimens compared to those found only a few years ago. We are in trouble my friends and we need to take close note!

Don Blankenship
The Ozarks

These are so great! my parents need it, very recommend . Really a solid, sharp (very sharp!) product. My old serrated product disappeared somewhere, but I wish I'd bought this one years ago. delivery on time receive it next day .

This book covers almost every aspect of anuran biology. Chapters include physiology, defence, food and feeding, reproduction, life-histories, distribution and families of frogs. Huge amount of colour and black and white photographs that aid in the comprehension of the topics being discussed. Informative yet a breeze to read. Highly Recommended!

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