

**READ THE PASSAGE** Notice the steps in how a tadpole grows into a frog.

### Tadpole to Frog

The frog starts its life as a tadpole. Tadpoles look like tiny black or brown balls with tails. A new baby tadpole sticks itself to grass or weeds in the water.

One week later, the tadpole can swim. It zips back and forth with other tadpoles! It also grows some tiny teeth. All that swimming makes a tadpole hungry. It gobbles up a soft, green plant called algae (AL-gee).

When the tadpole is 6 to 9 weeks old, its body gets longer. It stops looking like a ball. It grows back legs first and then front legs. It starts to eat bugs.

As the tadpole grows, its tail gets shorter. Its face gets longer like a frog's. Soon the tiny tadpole has become a fat, little frog! By the time it is 16 weeks old, it can jump onto land.

**SKILL PRACTICE** Read the question. Fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

1. What does a tadpole look like first?
  - Ⓐ a tiny brown or black ball
  - Ⓑ a tiny black bug
  - Ⓒ a piece of grass
  - Ⓓ a little frog
2. When does a tadpole begin to eat algae?
  - Ⓐ after it goes on land
  - Ⓑ after it grows legs
  - Ⓒ after its tail gets shorter
  - Ⓓ after it grows tiny teeth
3. What happens before a tadpole eats bugs?
  - Ⓐ It grows legs.
  - Ⓑ It becomes a frog.
  - Ⓒ It jumps onto land.
  - Ⓓ Its tail gets shorter.
4. What does the passage tell about last?
  - Ⓐ eating soft, green plants
  - Ⓑ growing back and front legs
  - Ⓒ jumping onto land
  - Ⓓ swimming with other tadpoles

**STRATEGY PRACTICE** Tell a partner what happens as a tadpole becomes a frog.