**Amphibians**

1. Amphibians are ectotherms that engage in **hibernation** in cold weather and

**estivation** in hot, dry weather.

1. Some amphibians breathe through their skin; others have small, simple,

saclike lungs in the chest cavity.

1. Amphibians have a three-chambered heart.
2. Amphibians need water for reproduction; eggs are fertilized externally.
3. Most amphibians go through a developmental process called metamorphosis.

**B.** Most frogs and toads use a tongue attached to the front of their mouths to

capture prey such as insects, worms, and spiders.

1. Salamanders and newts hide during the day and use well-developed senses of

smell and vision to hunt worms, crustaceans, and insects at night.

1. Amphibians help keep insect populations in balance, and amphibians provide

food for other animals.

1. Amphibians are a biological indicator whose overall health reflects the health

of a particular ecosystem.

1. Amphibians are thought to have evolved from lobe-finned fish about 350

million years ago.