

dorsal frog

dorsal frog refers to a fascinating group of amphibians distinguished by the prominent dorsal (back) patterns, colors, and textures that serve a variety of ecological and biological functions. These frogs are known not only for their unique dorsal features but also for their vital roles in their respective ecosystems. Understanding the characteristics, habitat, behavior, and conservation status of dorsal frogs provides valuable insights into their significance within the amphibian world. This article delves into the intriguing world of dorsal frogs, exploring their anatomy, habitats, behaviors, and the importance of preserving these remarkable creatures.

What is a Dorsal Frog?

A dorsal frog is a term used to describe frogs that display distinctive dorsal markings, coloration, or textures on their backs. These features often serve purposes such as camouflage, warning predators, or attracting mates. The dorsal side of a frog is a key aspect of its overall appearance and plays a crucial role in its survival strategies.

Key Characteristics of Dorsal Frogs

- **Coloration:** Dorsal frogs exhibit a wide range of colors, from bright hues like red, yellow, and orange to more subdued shades like brown, green, or gray.
- **Patterns:** Many dorsal frogs display intricate patterns such as spots, stripes, or mottling that help them blend into their environment.
- **Texture:** Some species have textured or bumpy dorsal surfaces, which can mimic the appearance of leaves, bark, or stones.
- **Size:** Dorsal frogs vary in size from tiny species measuring just a few centimeters to larger frogs exceeding 10 centimeters in length.

Habitat and Distribution of Dorsal Frogs

Dorsal frogs are found in a multitude of habitats worldwide, ranging from tropical rainforests to arid deserts. Their distribution is closely tied to their ecological needs, such as moisture levels, temperature, and availability of food.

Common Habitats

- **Tropical Rainforests:** Many dorsal frog species thrive in humid, dense forests with abundant water sources.
- **Wetlands and Swamps:** These environments provide ideal breeding grounds and ample food supply.
- **Mountainous Regions:** Some species are adapted to cooler, higher elevations with specific vegetation types.
- **Arid Regions:** Certain dorsal frogs have evolved to survive in dry environments, often with specialized adaptations.

Distribution by Region

- **South America:** Home to numerous species, especially in the Amazon basin, with vibrant coloration and diverse habitats.
- **Africa:** Dorsal frogs inhabit rainforests, savannas, and wetlands across the continent.
- **Asia:** Tropical and subtropical regions host several species with unique dorsal features.
- **Central America and the Caribbean:** Rich biodiversity with many endemic dorsal frog species.

Behavior and Adaptations of Dorsal Frogs

The dorsal features of these frogs are not merely for aesthetics; they are vital adaptations that improve survival and reproductive success.

Camouflage and Predation Avoidance

- Many dorsal frogs possess coloration and patterns that allow them to blend seamlessly into their surroundings, such as leaf litter or tree bark.
- Some species have the ability to change their dorsal coloration in response to environmental conditions, enhancing their camouflage.

Warning Coloration and Toxicity

- Bright dorsal colors, such as reds and yellows, often serve as aposematic signals warning predators of toxicity.
- Many dorsal frogs produce toxins in their skin, deterring potential predators who recognize these warning signs.

Reproductive Behaviors

- Some dorsal frogs display vibrant dorsal colors during mating seasons to attract partners.
- Others exhibit specific dorsal markings that signal reproductive readiness or health.

Notable Species of Dorsal Frogs

The diversity among dorsal frogs is vast, with many species exhibiting unique features that make them stand out.

Poison Dart Frogs (Dendrobatidae)

- Known for their vivid dorsal coloration and potent skin toxins.
- Examples include the Golden Poison Frog (*Phyllobates terribilis*) with its striking yellow dorsal surface.

Tree Frogs (Hylidae)

- Many have smooth, colorful dorsal surfaces with patterns that aid in camouflage among leaves and branches.
- Notable species include the Red-eyed Tree Frog (*Litoria chloris*) with bright green dorsal coloration and distinctive markings.

Harlequin Frogs (Atelopus)

- Recognized by their vibrant and contrasting dorsal patterns.
- Many are critically endangered due to habitat loss and disease.

Conservation and Threats Facing Dorsal Frogs

Despite their ecological importance, dorsal frogs face numerous threats that threaten their populations worldwide.

Main Threats

- **Habitat Destruction:** Deforestation, agriculture, and urbanization lead to loss of natural habitats.
- **Climate Change:** Altered temperature and precipitation patterns affect breeding and survival.
- **Pollution:** Pesticides, chemicals, and water pollution contaminate breeding sites.
- **Disease:** Chytridiomycosis, a fungal disease, has devastated many amphibian populations globally.
- **Illegal Pet Trade:** Over-collection for the exotic pet market reduces wild populations.

Conservation Efforts

- Establishment of protected areas and reserves to conserve natural habitats.
- Breeding programs in captivity to support population recovery.
- Research and monitoring to understand species populations and threats.
- Public education campaigns to raise awareness about amphibian conservation.

Importance of Dorsal Frogs in Ecosystems

Dorsal frogs contribute significantly to their ecosystems, serving as both predators and prey, and participating in nutrient cycling.

Ecological Roles

- **Pest Control:** Frogs consume insects and other small invertebrates, helping regulate pest populations.
- **Food Source:** They are prey for birds, snakes, mammals, and larger amphibians, forming an essential part of the food chain.
- **Bioindicators:** Frogs are sensitive to environmental changes, making them valuable indicators of ecosystem health.

Contributions to Biodiversity

- Each dorsal frog species adds to the rich tapestry of biodiversity, showcasing evolutionary adaptations and ecological niches.
- Their presence indicates a healthy and balanced environment.

How to Support Dorsal Frog Conservation

Protecting dorsal frogs requires collective efforts from individuals, communities, and governments.

What Can You Do?

- **Support Conservation Organizations:** Donate or volunteer with groups dedicated to amphibian research and habitat protection.
- **Reduce Pollution:** Limit pesticide and chemical use in your area to prevent environmental contamination.
- **Promote Habitat Preservation:** Participate in or initiate local

conservation projects and habitat restoration efforts.

- **Educate Others:** Spread awareness about the importance of frogs and the threats they face.
- **Practice Responsible Pet Ownership:** If keeping frogs as pets, ensure they are sourced sustainably and ethically.

Conclusion

The world of dorsal frogs is as diverse and intricate as their dorsal patterns and colors. These remarkable amphibians play essential roles in maintaining healthy ecosystems, serving as indicators of environmental health and contributing to biodiversity. However, they face numerous threats that jeopardize their survival. By understanding their biology, habitats, and the challenges they face, we can take meaningful steps to protect and conserve these fascinating creatures. Whether through supporting conservation initiatives or simply spreading awareness, every effort counts in ensuring that dorsal frogs continue to thrive in their natural habitats for generations to come.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a dorsal frog and how is it different from other frogs?

A dorsal frog refers to the upper side or back of a frog, often highlighting coloration or patterns that help with camouflage or signaling. The term is used to distinguish features on the dorsal surface from ventral or underside features.

Are dorsal frogs a specific species or a general term for frog features?

Dorsal frog is a general term describing the back surface of frogs and is not specific to any particular species. However, some species are known for distinctive dorsal markings or colors that make this term relevant.

How do dorsal patterns in frogs help with their survival?

Dorsal patterns and colors often serve as camouflage, helping frogs blend into their environment to avoid predators, or they can be used in species

recognition and mate attraction.

Can the dorsal coloration of frogs change over time?

Yes, some frogs can change the coloration or patterning on their dorsal surface due to environmental factors, mood, or during different life stages, aiding in camouflage or thermoregulation.

Are dorsal frog patterns unique to each species or individual?

Dorsal patterns can be species-specific, aiding in identification. Within a species, individual frogs may have unique markings, similar to fingerprints in humans.

What are some notable examples of frogs with distinctive dorsal features?

Examples include poison dart frogs with vibrant dorsal coloration, the African bullfrog with prominent dorsal ridges, and the peppered tree frog known for its mottled dorsal patterning.

Additional Resources

Dorsal Frog: An In-Depth Exploration of Its Biology, Habitat, and Significance

Introduction to Dorsal Frog

The term dorsal frog refers broadly to frogs characterized by distinctive dorsal features, often highlighting their unique skin patterns, coloration, and adaptations that set them apart within the diverse amphibian world. While "dorsal frog" isn't a specific species name, it commonly describes frogs with notable dorsal characteristics, including certain species within the Dendrobatidae (poison dart frogs), Mantellidae, or other families. This article aims to provide a comprehensive overview of what makes dorsal frogs fascinating, covering their anatomy, ecology, behavior, and significance in ecosystems and scientific research.

Understanding the Anatomy of Dorsal Frogs

Skin and Dorsal Patterns

- Texture & Composition: Dorsal frogs generally have smooth, moist skin that aids in respiration and camouflage. Their skin can be granular or smooth, depending on the species.
- Coloration & Patterns: The dorsal surface often exhibits vibrant colors and intricate patterns, serving multiple functions:
 - Camouflage: Blending with the environment to evade predators.
 - Warning signals: Bright colors indicating toxicity (aposematism).
 - Sexual signaling: Attracting mates through distinctive patterns.
- Dorsal Markings: These can include spots, stripes, or complex mosaics, often species-specific, aiding in identification.

Physiological Features

- Body Structure:
 - Compact, muscular body designed for jumping.
 - Long hind limbs facilitate powerful leaps.
- Head & Eyes:
 - Prominent eyes provide excellent vision for hunting and predator detection.
 - Nostrils are positioned on the dorsal surface, sometimes allowing breathing during submersion.
- Limbs:
 - Webbed toes enhance swimming capabilities.
 - Toes often have adhesive pads or discs to assist climbing.

Habitat and Distribution

Natural Habitats

- Tropical Rainforests: Many dorsal frogs inhabit dense, humid forests where moisture is abundant.
- Wetlands & Swamps: Ideal breeding grounds and foraging areas.
- Mountainous Regions: Some species are adapted to higher elevations with cooler climates.
- Forest Canopies: Arboreal species cling to leaves and branches, utilizing the dorsal surface for camouflage among foliage.

Geographical Distribution

- Predominantly found in:
- Central and South America (notably in the Amazon Basin).
- Madagascar (Mantellidae family).
- Southeast Asia.
- Range varies among species, with some being highly localized, while others have broad distributions.

Environmental Adaptations

- Dorsal frogs have evolved to thrive in their respective environments through:
- Coloration matching their surroundings.
- Behavioral adaptations like nocturnal activity to avoid predators.
- Breeding strategies aligned with seasonal changes.

Behavioral Traits and Life Cycle

Diet and Feeding

- Primarily insectivorous:
- Flies, ants, beetles, and other small invertebrates.
- Hunting Strategies:
- Sit-and-wait predators.
- Active foragers during the night or day, depending on species.

Reproductive Behavior

- Breeding Sites:
- Ponds, temporary pools, or leaf axils.
- Courtship:
- Males often vocalize with distinctive calls to attract females.
- Some species perform visual displays involving dorsal coloration.
- Egg Laying & Development:
- Eggs are laid in water or moist environments.
- Tadpoles develop in aquatic habitats, feeding on algae or detritus.

Defense Mechanisms

- Aposematism: Bright dorsal coloration warns predators of toxicity.
- Camouflage: Dorsal patterns allow blending with leaves, bark, or rocks.
- Toxins: Many dorsal frogs secrete potent toxins through their skin, deterring predation.
- Jumping & Agility: Rapid escapes via leaps contribute to survival.

Significance in Ecosystems

Ecological Roles

- Insect Population Control: By feeding on insects, dorsal frogs help regulate pest populations.
- Prey for Other Animals: They serve as food for birds, snakes, and larger amphibians.
- Bioindicators: Sensitive to environmental changes, their presence or absence signals ecosystem health.

Conservation Status

- Many dorsal frog species face threats from:
- Habitat destruction due to deforestation and agriculture.
- Pollution contaminating breeding sites.
- Climate change affecting habitat suitability.
- The illegal pet trade, especially for brightly colored species.
- Conservation efforts include habitat preservation, captive breeding programs, and environmental education.

Unique and Notable Dorsal Frog Species

Poison Dart Frogs (Dendrobatidae)

- Known for their striking dorsal coloration and potent toxins.
- Examples:
- *Dendrobates tinctorius*: Exhibits vivid blue and black patterns.

- *Phyllobates terribilis*: One of the most toxic frogs, with a bright yellow dorsal surface.
- Significance:
 - Their toxins have been studied for medical applications.
 - They exemplify aposematic coloration as a warning.

Mantellid Frogs (Madagascar)

- Diverse in dorsal patterns, often with cryptic coloration.
- Notable species include:
 - *Mantella* genus frogs with bright dorsal colors.
- Adaptations:
 - Many are arboreal with dorsal patterns aiding in concealment.

Arboreal Dorsal Frogs

- Examples include certain *Hyla* species.
- Dorsal features:
 - Discs on toes for climbing.
 - Camouflaging patterns suited for canopy life.

Scientific and Cultural Significance

Research and Biomedical Potential

- Toxin Studies:
 - Dorsal frogs like poison dart frogs provide insights into neurotoxins.
 - Potential for developing painkillers and other pharmaceuticals.
- Evolutionary Biology:
 - Studying dorsal coloration and toxicity helps understand predator-prey dynamics and speciation.

In Culture and Pet Trade

- Their vibrant dorsal patterns make them popular in the exotic pet market.
- Conservation concerns have risen due to over-collection.
- Ethical breeding programs aim to reduce wild capture and promote sustainable practices.

Challenges and Future Directions

- Habitat Preservation: Protecting natural environments is critical for dorsal frog survival.
- Climate Change Impact: Shifts in temperature and precipitation threaten breeding cycles.
- Disease Management: Chytridiomycosis has devastated amphibian populations globally.
- Research Gaps:
 - More studies needed on lesser-known species.
 - Understanding ecological roles and adaptations.

Conclusion

The dorsal frog embodies the incredible diversity and adaptability of amphibians. Its distinctive dorsal features—ranging from vibrant coloration to cryptic patterns—serve vital functions in survival, communication, and ecological balance. As indicators of environmental health and sources of biomedical insights, dorsal frogs command significant scientific interest. Protecting these remarkable creatures requires concerted conservation efforts, habitat preservation, and responsible engagement with their natural habitats. Through continued research and awareness, we can ensure that the fascinating world of dorsal frogs remains a vibrant part of our planet's biodiversity for generations to come.

[Dorsal Frog](#)

dorsal frog: Frog Dissection Manual Bruce D. Wingerd, 1988 Illustrations and easy-to-follow instructions demonstrate how to properly dissect a frog and identify its anatomical structures.

dorsal frog: *HUMAN and FROG ANATOMY ATLAS* ,

dorsal frog: *Development of the Human Spinal Cord* Joseph Altman, Shirley Ann Bayer, 2001

There exists a wealth of information about the development of the spinal cord in journal articles and monographs, yet this beautifully illustrated work is the first book devoted to this important topic. Because the developing human spinal cord cannot be subjected to experimental manipulations, the knowledge gained from experimental work in animals is applied here to an interpretation of the time course and mechanisms of spinal cord development in man. The book begins with a review of our current understanding of the structure and functions of the spinal cord. Special reference is made to the phylogeny of the vertebrate spinal cord because the authors' interpretation of the development and organization of the human spinal cord is specifically an evolutionary one. Following a detailed experiment-based account of spinal cord development in the rat, the development of the human

spinal cord is described, illustrated and interpreted in separate chapters during three epochs: the first trimester (the embryonic period), the second and third trimesters (the fetal period), and the first year of postnatal life. Special attention is paid to such topics as neurons, and the growth and myelination of the ascending and descending fiber tracts of the spinal cord. The book ends with a correlation of the development of motor behavior with different stages in the morphological development of the human spinal cord during the embryonic, fetal, and postnatal periods. The successive acquisition of voluntary control over different parts of the body during infancy is correlated with the progressive myelination of the corticospinal tract. * The book contains an extensive review of work on spinal cord organization and development throughout the 20th century. * The interpretations are based on experimental studies of spinal cord development in the rat carried out by the authors and their associates. * The histological material on human spinal cord development is the largest ever assembled and reproduced (combining the Carnegie, Minot, and Yakovlev Collections). * The collected material (which varies in quality and some of it has begun to fade) has been digitized and electronically reprocessed for improved reproduction. * Discrete components of the spinal cord and new developments are highlighted by color coding; typically on one side only, leaving the contralateral side untouched to allow the reader to use his own interpretation. * Summary graphs are presented, many in color, to convey important structural relationships, developmental events, or theories. * The authors revive a few forgotten theories and offer several new ones regarding the development and organization of the human spinal cord. Development of the Human Spinal Cord will be of interest to developmental biologists, neuroscientists, embryologists, molecular biologists (those working on stem cell research), pediatric neurologists, pathologists, child and developmental psychologists, and their students and trainees.

dorsal frog: Fossil Frogs and Toads of North America J. Alan Holman, 2003-12-25 The heart of this book consists of detailed systematic accounts of the known fossil frogs and toads (anurans) of North America and their localities. Extinct fossil frogs and toads are fully discussed and illustrated, and in some cases are re-diagnosed and re-described. For fossil taxa still living, the book gives the modern characteristics, ecological attributes, and modern ranges, and includes illustrations of diagnostic skeletal elements. The volume begins with an overview of the anurans and anuran studies, a general account of the skeleton and bones, and a discussion of the early evolution of the Anura, along with the formal classification of anuran taxonomic groups found in the North American fossil record. The third part of the book presents an epoch-by-epoch discussion of Mesozoic, Tertiary, and Pleistocene anurans, the classification and phylogeny of the anurans, and a comprehensive list of references.

dorsal frog: Frog Neurobiology R. Llinas, W. Precht, 2012-12-06 In review, the amount of information available on the morphological and functional properties of the frog nervous system is very extensive indeed and in certain areas is the only available source of information in vertebrates. Furthermore, much of the now classical knowledge in neurobiology was originally obtained and elaborated in depth in this vertebrate. To cite only a few examples, studies of nerve conduction, neuromuscular transmission, neuronal integration, sense organs, development, and locomotion have been developed with great detail in the frog and in conjunction provide the most complete holistic description of any nervous system. Added to the above considerations, the ease with which these animals may be maintained (both as adults and during development) and the advantage of their lower cost as compared with other vertebrate forms make the frog one of the most important laboratory animals in neurobiology. With these thoughts in mind, we decided to compile this volume. Our goal in doing so was to assemble as much as possible of the information available on frog neurobiology and to have the different topics covered by authorities in each of the fields represented. To keep the handbook restricted to one volume, we found it necessary to omit the large field of amphibian muscle neurobiology, which has already been summarized in various other publications.

dorsal frog: Laboratory Guide for the Study of the Frog Bertram Garner Smith, 1917

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molecular and cellular biology is that small double-stranded RNA molecules selectively turn off gene expression in all types of cell, a phenomenon known as RNA silencing. This discovery led to the development of RNA interference (known as RNAi) as a powerful research tool in the functional study of individual genes and their products, and in functional genomics. In RNAi, specific small double-stranded RNA molecules (small interfering RNAs or siRNAs) are introduced into cells to selectively silence certain genes. RNAi covers the basic concepts and mechanisms of RNAi, transfection of cells with siRNAs, the design and validation of RNAi reagents, RNAi techniques in different organisms, large-scale RNAi screening, applications of RNAi in drug discovery, and potential uses of RNAi as a therapeutic agent. A key feature of RNAi is the highlighting of the pitfalls that can occur and how to minimize them. The book also contains a complete list of abbreviations.

dorsal frog: Handbook of Amphibians and Reptiles of North-east Africa Stephen Spawls, Abubakr Mohammad, Tomáš Mazuch, 2023-07-20 This handbook is the first complete guide to the herpetofauna of northeast Africa, covering seven countries – Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan. The seven countries of north-east Africa – Egypt, Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti and Somalia – share a remarkably diverse landscape, and the region is home to a vast array of herpetofauna, from the Variable Green Toad to the Congo Hinged Terrapin, the Nubian Pigmy Gecko and the Pasteur's Desert Racer. This handbook is the most comprehensive and up-to-date reference to all 114 species of amphibian and 458 species of reptile known from the region, including caecilians, frogs, turtles and tortoises, lizards, crocodiles and snakes. Featuring more than 950 photos, Handbook of Amphibians and Reptiles of North-east Africa includes information on identification, habitat and distribution, behaviour, and best locations to see species, as well as up-to-date species maps. Supporting chapters cover the region's habitats, conservation, and safety when observing and handling amphibians and reptiles. This is an essential resource for anyone interested in the unique and extraordinarily diverse herpetofauna of north-east Africa.

dorsal frog: Frogs of the United States and Canada C. Kenneth Dodd Jr., 2023-06-20 The most thorough, updated guide to frogs and toads in the United States and Canada available. A stunning diversity of frog species can be found from coastal swamps to lofty mountain peaks, and from the Florida Keys to the Arctic Ocean. They live in subtropical lowlands, grassland prairies, deserts, and alpine-tundra habitats. Some species have restricted habitat requirements, whereas others occur contiguously from the arid plains or humid southeastern forests to the high tundra. In this new edition of Frogs of the United States and Canada, C. Kenneth Dodd Jr. tours the reader through the marvelous world of North American frogs. Covering 114 native and introduced species from all US states and Canadian provinces, this comprehensive reference on the biology, behavior, and conservation of the Order Anura includes detailed and updated information on • past and present distribution • life history and demography • reproduction and diet • landscape ecology and evolution • diseases, parasites, and threats from toxic substances • conservation and management Hundreds of occurrence maps, line drawings, and new color photographs of frogs and their habitats enhance the text. The most thorough treatment of the life histories, distribution, and status of North American frogs ever produced, Frogs of the United States and Canada has been the go-to reference for naturalists, scientists, and resource managers in their efforts to understand and conserve frogs, their habitats, and biodiversity for over a decade. Based on a meticulously updated examination of more than 8,000 references current through 2021, this second edition ensures Dodd's master work will remain an unparalleled resource for years to come.

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amateur 'froggers' students, as well as professional scientists, this is an inspiring and significant guide.

dorsal frog: *North American Anura* Albert Hazen Wright, 1914

dorsal frog: *The Anatomy of the Frog* Alexander Ecker, 1889

dorsal frog: *Handbook of Frogs and Toads of the United States and Canada* Albert Hazen Wright, Anna Allen Wright, 2019-06-30 The preeminent naturalists Albert Hazen Wright and Anna Allen Wright spent years assembling the wealth of material on frogs and toads appearing in this widely used handbook, the third edition of which was originally published in 1949. With abundant black-and-white photographs, colorful descriptions, journal notes from the field, and excerpts from the literature, their personalized natural history emphasizes amphibians observed in the wild. In a foreword to the 1995 paperback edition, Roy McDiarmid, a foremost specialist on frogs and toads, brings the book into historical perspective and supplies information to bring it up to date. Accounts of more than 100 species and subspecies cover such topics as common and scientific names, range, habitat, size, and general appearance, as well as color, structure, voice, and breeding. Separate keys are given for secondary sexual characteristics, eggs, tadpoles, families, and species. Generous quotations from the Wrights' field journals give the reader a sense of the problems and satisfactions of their work.

dorsal frog: *Advances in Developmental Biology* Paul Wassarman, 1996-06-25 Volume 4 of *Advances in Developmental Biology and Biochemistry* consists of five chapters that review specific aspects of fly and mammalian development. In Chapter 1, Y. Mishina and R. Behringer discuss various aspects of Müllerian-inhibiting substance (MIS) in mammals, from a brief history of its discovery to recent studies of the MIS gene in transgenic and knock-out animals. In Chapter 2, C. Rushlow and S. Roth discuss the role of the dpp-group genes in dorsoventral patterning of the *Drosophila* embryo. In Chapter 3, M. Yip and H. Lipshitz discuss the terminal (asegmental termini) gene hierarchy of *Drosophila* and the genetic control of tissue specification and morphogenesis. In Chapter 4, R. Bachvarova discusses induction of mesoderm and the origin of anterior-posterior polarity in the mouse embryo, using the frog embryo as a paradigm. In Chapter 5, P. Vogt discusses human Y chromosome function in male germ cell development.

dorsal frog: *Frogs and Toads of Alabama* Craig Guyer, Mark A. Bailey, 2023-03-07 *Frogs and Toads of Alabama* is the most comprehensive taxonomy of the anuran fauna gathered since Robert H. Mount's seminal 1975 volume on the reptiles and amphibians of Alabama. This richly illustrated guide provides an up-to-date summary of the taxonomy and life history of frogs and toads both native and introduced to the state. Alabama possesses one of the most species-rich biotas in north temperate areas and this richness is reflected in its frogs and toads. The authors examine all known species within the state and describe important regional variations in each species, including changes in species across the many habitats that comprise the state. Significant field studies, especially of Alabama's species of conservation concern, have been performed and are used to inform discussion of each account. The life-history entry for each species is comprised of scientific and common names, full-color photographs, a morphological description, discussion of habits and life cycle, and a distribution map depicting the species range throughout the state, as well as notes on conservation and management practices. The illustrated taxonomic keys provided for families, genera, species, and subspecies are of particular value to herpetologists. This extensive guide will serve as a single resource for understanding the rich natural history of Alabama by shedding light on an important component of that biodiversity. Accessible to all, this volume is valuable to both the professional herpetologist and the general reader interested in frogs and toads--

dorsal frog: *Neurotransmitter Actions in the Vertebrate Nervous System* Michael Rogawski, 2012-12-06 Intercellular communication via bioactive substances occurs in virtually all multicellular systems. Chemical neurotransmission in the vertebrate nervous system represents a form of signaling of this type. The biology of chemical neurotransmission is complex, involving transmitter synthesis, transport, and release by the presynaptic neuron; signal generation in the target tissue; and mechanisms for termination of the response. The focus of this book is on one aspect of this

scheme: the diverse electrophysiological effects induced by different neurotransmitters on target cells. In recent years, astonishing progress has been made in elucidating the specific physiological signals mediated by neurotransmitters in the vertebrate nervous system, yet, in our view, this has not been adequately recognized, perhaps because the new concepts have yet to filter into neuroscience textbooks. Nevertheless, the principles of neurotransmitter action are critical to advances in many areas of neuroscience, including molecular neurobiology, neurochemistry, neuropharmacology, physiological psychology, and clinical neuroscience. It was the need for a sourcebook that prompted us to engage a group of neurophysiologists to prepare the chapters in this volume. However, there was an additional reason for this book: more and more it seemed that the field, if not yet having reached maturity, at least was approaching adolescence, with strengths in some areas and healthy conflicts in others. At this stage of development a textbook can help to define a field, clarify problems to be resolved, and identify areas for future investigation.

dorsal frog: Diagnosis and Management of Lameness in the Horse Michael W. Ross, Sue J. Dyson, 2010-10-29 Covering many different diagnostic tools, this essential resource explores both traditional treatments and alternative therapies for conditions that can cause gait abnormalities in horses. Broader in scope than any other book of its kind, this edition describes equine sporting activities and specific lameness conditions in major sport horse types, and includes up-to-date information on all imaging modalities. This title includes additional digital media when purchased in print format. For this digital book edition, media content may not be included. - Cutting-edge information on diagnostic application for computed tomography and magnetic resonance imaging includes the most comprehensive section available on MRI in the live horse. - Coverage of traditional treatment modalities also includes many aspects of alternative therapy, with a practical and realistic perspective on prognosis. - An examination of the various types of horses used in sports describes the lameness conditions to which each horse type is particularly prone, as well as differences in prognosis. - Guidelines on how to proceed when a diagnosis cannot easily be reached help you manage conditions when faced with the limitations of current diagnostic capabilities. - Clinical examination and diagnostic analgesia are given a special emphasis. - Practical, hands-on information covers a wide range of horse types from around the world. - A global perspective is provided by a team of international authors, editors, and contributors. - A full-color insert shows thermography images. - Updated chapters include the most current information on topics such as MRI, foot pain, stem cell therapy, and shock wave treatment. - Two new chapters include The Biomechanics of the Equine Limb and its Effect on Lameness and Clinical Use of Stem Cells, Marrow Components, and Other Growth Factors. The chapter on the hock has been expanded substantially, and the section on lameness associated with the foot has been completely rewritten to include state-of-the-art information based on what has been learned from MRI. Many new figures appear throughout the book. - A companion website includes 47 narrated video clips of gait abnormalities, including typical common syndromes as well as rarer and atypical manifestations of lameness and neurological dysfunction, with commentary by author/editors Mike Ross and Sue Dyson. - References on the companion website are linked to the original abstracts on PubMed.

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dorsal frog: The Central Nervous System of Vertebrates Rudolf Nieuwenhuys, Hans J. ten Donkelaar, Charles Nicholson, 2014-11-14 This comprehensive reference is clearly destined to

become the definitive anatomical basis for all neuroscience research. The book provides a complete overview and comparison of the structural organization of all vertebrate groups, ranging from amphioxus and lamprey through fishes, amphibians and birds to mammals. The large specialised section of the work, devoted to the CNS of the various vertebrate groups, is preceded by introductory chapters on neurons, cell masses, fibre tracts, morphogenesis, methodology, and techniques. Although focusing on structure, the authors provide functional correlations throughout. This monumental work is, and will remain, unique; the only source of such brilliant illustrations at both the macroscopic and microscopic levels.

dorsal frog: *The Dissection of Vertebrates* Gerardo De Iuliis, Dino Pulerà, 2006-08-03 The Dissection of Vertebrates, Second Edition, provides students with a manual that combines pedagogical effective text with high-quality, accurate, and attractive visual references. Using a systemic approach within a systematic framework for each vertebrate, this book covers several animals commonly used in providing an anatomical transition sequence. Seven animals are covered: lamprey, shark, perch, mudpuppy, frog, pigeon, and cat. This updated version include a revised systemic section of the introductory chapter; corrections to several parts of the existing text and images; new comparative skull sections included as part of the existing vertebrates; and a companion site with image bank. This text is designed for 2nd or 3rd year university level comparative vertebrate anatomy courses. Such courses are usually two-semester courses, and may either be a required course or an elective. It is typically a required course for Biology and Zoology majors, as well as for some Forensics and Criminology programs, and offered as an elective for many other non-zoology science majors. - Winner of the NYSM Jury award for the Rock Dove Air Sacs, Lateral and Ventral Views illustration - Expertly rendered award-winning illustrations accompany the detailed, clear dissection direction - Organized by individual organism to facilitate classroom presentation - Offers coverage of a wide range of vertebrates - Full-color, strong pedagogical aids in a convenient lay-flat presentation - Expanded and updated features on phylogenic coverage, mudpuppy musculature and comparative mammalian skulls

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