

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## The Pipa Pipa Frog

Frogs have been around for millions of years. In fact, they have been around since the time of the dinosaurs. There are hundreds of different kinds of frogs. And every year people find new kinds. Frogs are amazing animals. They live all over the world and can be as small as 1 inch and as heavy as 7 pounds!

One very amazing frog is the Pipa Pipa frog. It lives in the Rainforests of South America. It's also called the Suriname toad. (Suriname is a country in South America). The pipa pipa lives only in water and almost never comes out. It does swim to the surface to breathe. It can't hop like other frogs, but it's a very good swimmer! It has webbed feet, almost like a duck. And it doesn't catch flies with its tongue like other frogs. No, in fact the pipa pipa does not have a tongue at all. It swims after fish, grabs hold, and eats the fish. The pipa pipa has tiny teeth in its mouth that help it hold on to food.

The pipa pipa looks like a leaf, and a head shaped like a triangle. It's almost completely flat, so it's very hard to spot in the water. Some are brown and some are grey. What makes the pipa pipa even more special is the way it hatches its young. Frogs lay eggs, most of the time in water, or somewhere wet. The tadpoles come out and later turn into adult frogs, but not the pipa pipa. The female "glues" her eggs to her back, sometimes up to 100 eggs. She grows a special layer of skin over the eggs to protect them. Like a shield. Under her skin the eggs hatch, and grow until they are little frogs.

They start to wiggle around and finally break free from their mothers back. Then they are ready to feed themselves and live on their own. The mother does not feel any pain at all. After the baby frogs are out she does have holes on her back, but it does get back to normal. What an amazing frog!

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## The Pipa Pipa Frog Questions

**Circle the phrases that tell us about the pipa pipa frog**

—Has a tongue—Hops on land— Has webbed feet  
Does not come on land— Has tiny teeth—

Lives all over the world—Eats fish—Has no teeth

Swims— Is easy to spot in water—lays up to 100 eggs



Lays eggs in water—Is flat like a leaf—Has a green color—

Comes to the surface to breathe—lives in water

baby frogs come from mother's back—Head shaped like a triangle

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## The Pipa Pipa Frog Answers

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**Does not come on land— Has tiny teeth—**

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**baby frogs come from mother's back—Head shaped like a triangle**