Pondside Clues

Compare the body features of reptiles and amphibians.

L.2.1.3 "Compare and contrast physical characteristics that distinguish between classes of vertebrates (i.e., reptiles compared to amphibians)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words that describe reptile skin, circle words that describe amphibian skin, and put a 1 beside the sentence that tells what both groups have in common. Use your marks to compare the two groups.

A Turtle and a Frog

1. At the pond, a turtle rests on a log. A frog sits close by. Both animals have backbones. A turtle is a reptile. A frog is an amphibian. Look at their skin to tell these two animal groups apart.

2. Touching wild animals can hurt them, so use your eyes. The turtle has dry skin with scales. Its hard shell covers much of its body. The frog has soft, moist skin without scales. Its skin can feel wet even on land.

3. Other reptiles, like lizards, have dry, scaly skin too. Other amphibians, like salamanders, have moist skin without scales. Many turtles lay eggs with tough, leathery shells on land. Many frogs lay soft, jelly-covered eggs in water. Their egg coverings look different.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How is the turtle's skin different from the frog's skin?

2. How do the egg coverings of many turtles and many frogs differ?

3. What body part do the turtle and frog both have, even though their skin is different?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

In two panels, draw a lizard and a salamander. Label each animal's skin, then write one sentence comparing their skin.

ANSWER KEY

Pondside Clues

GRADE 2 · L.2.1.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline words that describe reptile skin, circle words that describe amphibian skin, and put a 1 beside the sentence that tells what both groups have in common. Use your marks to compare the two groups. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How is the turtle's skin different from the frog's skin?	**The turtle has dry skin with scales. The frog has moist skin without scales.**
2	How do the egg coverings of many turtles and many frogs differ?	**Many turtle eggs have tough, leathery shells. Many frog eggs have soft, jelly-like coverings.**
3	What body part do the turtle and frog both have, even though their skin is different?	**Both have backbones.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Lizard panel: a lizard labeled dry, scaly skin. Salamander panel: a salamander labeled moist skin, no scales. A lizard has dry scales, but a salamander has moist skin without scales.

Accept labels and a sentence that show dry, scaly reptile skin compared with moist amphibian skin without scales. Drawings need only show the intended animals and skin features.