

From Spawn to Frog by Kate Ruttle

Frogs lay their eggs in water or wet places. A floating clump of eggs is called frogspawn.

The large and slippery mass of eggs is too big to be eaten. This is nature's way of protecting them because smaller clumps of eggs may be eaten by ducks, fish, insects and other water creatures.

The egg begins as a single cell. Several thousand are sometimes laid at the same time. It soon becomes surrounded by a jellylike covering, which protects the egg.

The cell splits

The single cell in the egg eventually splits into two. These two split making four cells and so on. After a while, there are many cells in the egg.

The embryo

The mass of cells in the egg is called an embryo. It will grow into a tadpole. While the embryo develops, it lives off the yolk of the egg. This supplies it with all the food it needs for 21 days.

