



Imagine a tiny creature with skin as bright and colorful as a rainbow, that's a poison dart frog for you! These little guys are no bigger than an adult's thumbnail, but don't let their size fool you. Their skin is a riot of colors, from blue to green, yellow to red, and everything in between. These flashy colors are not just for show, they are a warning sign to other animals that they are not a good snack!

Speaking of snacks, let's dive into what these tiny, colorful critters munch on. Poison dart frogs have a pretty varied diet, including ants, beetles, spiders, mites, and centipedes. They use their long, sticky tongues to catch these tiny creatures. Interestingly, it's thought that their poisonous skin is a result of the toxic insects they eat in the wild!

Now that we've discussed their meal times, let's hop over to where they call home. These frogs are mostly found in Central and South American rainforests, living in the humid, wet environments under leaves and logs. They lay their eggs on leaves, and when the eggs hatch, the tadpoles stick to the male frog's back and he carries them to water! Each species of poison dart frog has its own unique call, making the rainforest a symphony of sounds.



From their homes in the rainforest, let's leap over to their relationship with us humans and other animals. Their bright colors and poison have made them a subject of fascination for humans and a warning for predators. Native tribes once used their toxic secretions to poison the tips of their blow darts, hence their name! So, while they might be small, poison dart frogs are definitely mighty, and a great reminder of how colorful and amazing nature can be.





**Solve each problem.**

**Use the article to answer the question.**

- 1) Where do poison dart frogs lay their eggs?
  - A. in the water
  - B. in underground burrows
  - C. on tree trunks
  - D. on leaves
- 2) What are the rainforests like where poison dart frogs live?
  - A. cold and snowy
  - B. windy and stormy
  - C. humid and wet
  - D. dry and sandy
- 3) Why is a poison dart frog's skin thought to be toxic?
  - A. They are born with it
  - B. They come into contact with poisonous plants
  - C. They get it from living in the rainforest
  - D. It's a result of the toxic insects they eat
- 4) Why do poison dart frogs have bright, colorful skin?
  - A. to camouflage themselves
  - B. to attract a mate
  - C. to warn other animals that they are poisonous
  - D. to absorb sunlight
- 5) Where do poison dart frogs live?
  - A. in the Australian outback
  - B. in the Arctic tundra
  - C. in Central and South American rainforests
  - D. in the African savannah
- 6) How do poison dart frogs catch their food?
  - A. They use their long, sticky tongues
  - B. They use their hands
  - C. They trap their food in small pits they dig
  - D. They chase and grab their food
- 7) Why did native tribes use poison dart frog secretions?
  - A. As a cure for illnesses
  - B. As a spice for their food
  - C. As a paint for their homes
  - D. To poison the tips of their blow darts
- 8) Who carries the poison dart frog tadpoles to water?
  - A. the tadpoles travel to water on their own
  - B. both the male and female frog
  - C. the male frog
  - D. the female frog
- 9) What is interesting about the skin of poison dart frogs?
  - A. It is toxic to predators.
  - B. It glows in the dark.
  - C. It is covered in tiny, hair-like structures.
  - D. It has a slimy texture.
- 10) Where would you most likely find a poison dart frogs?
  - A. on the ground
  - B. in burrows underground
  - C. under leaves and logs
  - D. in rivers and streams



- 11) What do poison dart frogs eat?
- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| A. Fruit, seeds, roots and bark    | B. Fish, birds, rodents and small mammals        |
| C. Grass, leaves, nuts and berries | D. Ants, beetles, spiders, mites, and centipedes |

**Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).**

- 12) "Rainforests are our home sweet home, we live under logs and leaves."
- 13) "I am as big as a football!"
- 14) "We're called poison dart frogs because we can shoot poisonous darts."
- 15) "My skin is as bright and colorful as a rainbow because I eat a lot of colorful fruits."
- 16) "Even though we are super tiny, we can be really dangerous because of the poison on our skin."
- 17) "Do you know why we are so colorful? It's not just to look cool, but also to let everyone know that we are not a tasty snack!"
- 18) "Once my eggs hatch, the tadpoles are on their own. I don't bother with them."
- 19) "My beautiful skin colors mean that I'm delicious to eat."
- 20) "We eat fruits and vegetables for meals. That's why our skin is so vibrant!"
- 21) "We are from South America, where it's super hot and full of green rainforest."
- 22) "If you want to find me, look in the dry desert."
- 23) "You must have heard that we are tiny, but you probably didn't know we're smaller than a grownup's thumb."
- 24) "I catch my food with my short, slippery tongue."

**Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.**

- 25) It is thought that the poisonous skin of poison dart frogs is a result of the toxic insects they eat in the wild.
- 26) Their bright and colorful skin definitely makes poison dart frogs the most beautiful frogs in the world.
- 27) Poison dart frogs use their long, sticky tongues to catch their food.
- 28) It is fascinating that poison dart frogs have a diet that consists of mostly small invertebrates.
- 29) The bright colors of poison dart frogs serve as a warning to other animals that they are not safe to eat.
- 30) The fact that poison dart frogs are brightly colored to warn predators is the cleverest defense mechanism in the animal kingdom.
- 31) Mostly found in Central and South American rainforests, poison dart frogs like to live in humid and wet environments.
- 32) Ants, beetles, spiders and other little creatures make up the diet of poison dart frogs.
- 33) The fact that poison dart frogs can be harmful to touch is a bit scary.





# Poison Dart Frog

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- |           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____  | 26. _____ | 51. _____ |
| 2. _____  | 27. _____ | 52. _____ |
| 3. _____  | 28. _____ | 53. _____ |
| 4. _____  | 29. _____ | 54. _____ |
| 5. _____  | 30. _____ | 55. _____ |
| 6. _____  | 31. _____ |           |
| 7. _____  | 32. _____ |           |
| 8. _____  | 33. _____ |           |
| 9. _____  | 34. _____ |           |
| 10. _____ | 35. _____ |           |
| 11. _____ | 36. _____ |           |
| 12. _____ | 37. _____ |           |
| 13. _____ | 38. _____ |           |
| 14. _____ | 39. _____ |           |
| 15. _____ | 40. _____ |           |
| 16. _____ | 41. _____ |           |
| 17. _____ | 42. _____ |           |
| 18. _____ | 43. _____ |           |
| 19. _____ | 44. _____ |           |
| 20. _____ | 45. _____ |           |
| 21. _____ | 46. _____ |           |
| 22. _____ | 47. _____ |           |
| 23. _____ | 48. _____ |           |
| 24. _____ | 49. _____ |           |
| 25. _____ | 50. _____ |           |



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- |                  |                        |                          |
|------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. <u>D</u>      | 26. <u>opinion</u>     | 51. <u>interrogative</u> |
| 2. <u>C</u>      | 27. <u>fact</u>        | 52. <u>declarative</u>   |
| 3. <u>D</u>      | 28. <u>opinion</u>     | 53. <u>declarative</u>   |
| 4. <u>C</u>      | 29. <u>fact</u>        | 54. <u>interrogative</u> |
| 5. <u>C</u>      | 30. <u>opinion</u>     | 55. <u>interrogative</u> |
| 6. <u>A</u>      | 31. <u>fact</u>        |                          |
| 7. <u>D</u>      | 32. <u>fact</u>        |                          |
| 8. <u>C</u>      | 33. <u>opinion</u>     |                          |
| 9. <u>A</u>      | 34. <u>opinion</u>     |                          |
| 10. <u>C</u>     | 35. <u>true</u>        |                          |
| 11. <u>D</u>     | 36. <u>false</u>       |                          |
| 12. <u>true</u>  | 37. <u>true</u>        |                          |
| 13. <u>false</u> | 38. <u>false</u>       |                          |
| 14. <u>false</u> | 39. <u>true</u>        |                          |
| 15. <u>false</u> | 40. <u>false</u>       |                          |
| 16. <u>true</u>  | 41. <u>false</u>       |                          |
| 17. <u>true</u>  | 42. <u>false</u>       |                          |
| 18. <u>false</u> | 43. <u>true</u>        |                          |
| 19. <u>false</u> | 44. <u>true</u>        |                          |
| 20. <u>false</u> | 45. <u>B</u>           |                          |
| 21. <u>true</u>  | 46. <u>A</u>           |                          |
| 22. <u>false</u> | 47. <u>D</u>           |                          |
| 23. <u>true</u>  | 48. <u>A</u>           |                          |
| 24. <u>false</u> | 49. <u>C</u>           |                          |
| 25. <u>fact</u>  | 50. <u>declarative</u> |                          |



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**Use the article to answer the question.**

- 1) Where do poison dart frogs lay their eggs? (paragraph 3)  
A. \_\_\_\_\_ B. in underground burrows  
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A. cold and snowy B. \_\_\_\_\_  
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C. to warn other animals that they are D. \_\_\_\_\_  
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