



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

**Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or if 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.



34) The name "poison dart frog" is both scary and fascinating.

**Determine if the statement is true or false.**

35) Native tribes once used the toxic secretions of poison dart frogs to poison their blow darts.

36) Poison dart frogs eat only beetles.

37) The bright colors of poison dart frogs are a warning sign for other animals.

38) Poison dart frogs are found all over the world.

39) The tadpoles of poison dart frogs stick to their father's back.

40) The bright colors on a poison dart frog are used to attract prey.

41) The tadpoles of poison dart frogs stick to the female frog's back.

42) Poison dart frogs use their long tails to catch their prey.

43) Poison dart frogs can be found in South American rainforests.

44) Poison dart frogs eat spiders and centipedes.

**Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.**

45) Some poison dart frogs can't change their colors, but they're still bright.

A. can

B. cannot

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D. do not

46) There's a lot of variety in the colors and patterns of poison dart frogs.

A. There is

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47) Poison dart frogs don't usually grow larger than 2 inches.

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48) It's important not to touch these frogs because their skin is toxic.

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49) They're called poison dart frogs because their toxins were used in darts.

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**Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).**

50) Poison dart frogs are known for their toxic skin.

51) How many different species of poison dart frogs are there?

52) Poison dart frogs live in rainforests in Central and South America.

53) Poison dart frogs are brightly colored.

54) Where can poison dart frogs be found?

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- |                                 |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
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| 2. <u>    <b>A</b>    </u>      | 27. <u>    <b>fact</b>    </u>        | 52. <u>    <b>declarative</b>    </u>   |
| 3. <u>    <b>D</b>    </u>      | 28. <u>    <b>opinion</b>    </u>     | 53. <u>    <b>declarative</b>    </u>   |
| 4. <u>    <b>B</b>    </u>      | 29. <u>    <b>fact</b>    </u>        | 54. <u>    <b>interrogative</b>    </u> |
| 5. <u>    <b>C</b>    </u>      | 30. <u>    <b>opinion</b>    </u>     | 55. <u>    <b>interrogative</b>    </u> |
| 6. <u>    <b>A</b>    </u>      | 31. <u>    <b>fact</b>    </u>        |   |
| 7. <u>    <b>A</b>    </u>      | 32. <u>    <b>fact</b>    </u>        |   |
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| 10. <u>    <b>D</b>    </u>     | 35. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>        |   |
| 11. <u>    <b>D</b>    </u>     | 36. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u>       |   |
| 12. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>  | 37. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>        |   |
| 13. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u> | 38. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u>       |   |
| 14. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u> | 39. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>        |   |
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| 19. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u> | 44. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>        |   |
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