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Why Do Frogs Croak?

By Brezdyn Y.

On April 25, 2022 me and my class went out to the secret vernal pool behind Messalonskee Middle School. There are trees growing so it would be a forest wetlands. Our class found a caddisfly, a red back salamander, a horsehair worm and tons of frog eggs. We also looked for fairy shrimp but we did not find any. Also our vernal pool wasn't very big so there weren't a lot of creatures in the vernal pool. After seeing a vernal pool I wondered about frogs and specifically why do they croak?



I was wondering why frogs croak because I always hear them. I was doing a little research and apparently the main reason is mating and when a male croaks it will get the attention of the female. Croaking is an intent to mate and it is common at the frog mating season in the spring and right after it rains. When two females hear the croak, they can fight over who will get the male. Croaking can be used as a defense against predators and only male frogs can croak. Something else I wondered about was if frogs have good sight because any time I try to catch one they always get away. I found an article on frogs' sight and it said that they have excellent night vision and since their eyes are on the sides of their heads, they can sense movement if something tries to sneak up on it. That's why they are hard to catch.

In our vernal pool we saw frog eggs but no adult frogs. Near our vernal pool we also have a pond and there are adult frogs there! Based on what I know about frogs and my research, I learned that when frogs croak it is usually for mating or defense. If we go out to the vernal pool again, I would like to see if

we hear any frogs croaking. Also, I would like to learn more about the life cycle of a frog and how long it takes for the eggs to hatch.

Citation

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<https://www.thesprucepets.com/why-frogs-croak-5220135#:~:text=The%20main%20reason%20why%20a,the%20spring%20after%20it%20rains.>