

# Frogspawn

*Rana temporaria*



## What to look for

A mass of thick, translucent jelly with dark specks throughout

The specks are eggs – often 5000 are laid at once

## Where found

Ponds, ditches and slow moving streams



## When to look

Usually appears in February / March  
but look out for early spawn

Tadpoles begin to emerge after about one month

## Not to be confused with...

Common toad spawn



### Did you know?

Frogs can sometimes be fooled by unseasonably warm weather into spawning too soon. We receive records most years of exceptional sightings in November and December

Such early spawn is then vulnerable to freezing while it floats on the top of the pond. Frogs only mate once per season so if they are caught out, their breeding effort for the year is wasted

Colder winters reduce the risk of early spawning, but bring their own problems as frogs that have hibernated at the bottom of ponds can die if there is a layer of ice on the pond and oxygen levels become too low

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