

Exotroph (or exotrophic): a larva that feeds on various materials not parentally derived, or trophic eggs provided by the mother.

Explosive breeder: a species that breeds in a very short period (see explosive breeding).

Explosive breeding: when all animals of a population congregate and breed in a very short period.

Family: a taxonomic category of related organisms ranking below an order and above a genus.

Fibulare: the bone or cartilage of the tarsus that articulates with the fibula, which is the outer of the two bones of the hindlimb.

Filament: a slender tip of the tail in some tadpoles.

Firmisternal pectoral girdle: an anuran pectoral girdle in which the epicoracoid cartilages are fused along the midline.

Fossorial: adapted to live underground. Also an ecomorphological guild that includes lotic, fusiform tadpoles that inhabit leaf mats in slow water areas.

Frontal bones: cranial bones lying between the orbits and the parietal bones. Usually paired, but may fuse to form a single frontal bone, or fuse with the parietal bones to form a single frontoparietal bone.

Frontoparietal bones: cranial bones consisting of the fused frontal and parietal bones. May be paired or fused in a single frontoparietal bone.

Ganglion (pl. ganglia): an encapsulated neural structure consisting of a collection of cell bodies or neurons.

Gastromyzophorous: an ecomorphological guild that includes lotic tadpoles that have the belly modified in a ventral sucker.

Genus (pl. genera): a taxonomic category of related organisms ranking below a family and above a species.

Gill: respiratory organ of aquatic organisms that breathe oxygen dissolved in water.

Gill slit: one of a series of slitlike openings by which the water from the gill is discharged.

Girdle: an encircling arrangement of bones.

Gonad: a gland in which sex cells (= gametes) are produced.

Groin: the posterior part of the flank near hindlimb insertion.

Groove: a long narrow furrow or channel.

Hepatic peritoneum: the layers of tissue that cover the liver.

Herpetofauna: the amphibian and reptile fauna

Heterospecific: belonging to a different species.

Holarctic: a biogeographic region; of, or pertaining to the temperate and Arctic regions of the Northern Hemisphere (divided into the Nearctic and Palearctic regions).

Holochordal vertebrae: vertebrae in which the notochord (= the axial support of all embryonic vertebrates) is entirely replaced by bone.

Hydrography: the scientific description and analysis of the physical characteristics of earth's surface waters.

Insemination: the introduction of semen (the fluid containing spermatozoa) into the reproductive tract of the female.

Interclavicle: a median bone connected with the sternum.

Interhyoideus: a buccal elevator muscle.

Intraspecific: involving the members of one species; occurring within a species.

Jugal bone: the arch of bone beneath the eye.

Kingdom: the largest of the divisions of living organisms.

Keratinized: hardened with keratin, which is an insoluble protein substance that constitutes the bulk of various horny structures.

Lentic: of, or relating to, or living in any nonflowing water system.

Lotic: of, or relating to, or living in any flowing water system.

Macrophagous: an ecomorphological guild that includes lentic tadpoles that presumably feed by taking larger bites of attached materials on submerged substrates.

Medial: of, or pertaining to the midline.

Mimetic: relating to, characteristic of, or exhibiting mimetism (see mimetism).

Mimetism (or mimicry): the advantageous superficial resemblance of a palatable organism to an unpalatable, toxic organism (Batesian mimetism), or of an unpalatable, toxic organism to another unpalatable, toxic one (Müllerian mimetism).

Monophyletic: a group containing a hypothetical common ancestor and all its descendants; characterized by the possession of synapomorphies (see synapomorphy; paraphyletic; polyphyletic).

Monotypic: consisting of a single species.

Morphometrics: the study of variation and change in the form of organisms.

Nasal bones: cranial bones lying above the nasal capsule. Usually paired, but may be fused in a single element.

Nearctic: a biogeographic region; of, or pertaining to the temperate and Arctic regions of North America and Greenland.

Nektonic: an ecomorphological guild that includes lentic or lotic tadpoles that rasp food from submerged surfaces somewhere within the water column.

Nidicolous: an ecomorphological guild that includes species that have non-feeding tadpoles.

Nychthemeral: of, or relating to a 24h period.

Obtuse: blunt or rounded at the apex (tip).

Odontophores: the tooth-bearing processes of the vomer and palatine bones.

Opercular element: an ear cartilage or bone.

Order: a taxonomic category of related organisms ranking above a family and below a class.

Oviduct: the tube through which eggs (ova) pass from the ovary to the uterus or to the outside.

Oviparous: eggs that hatch outside the body of the mother.

Ovoviviparous: eggs that hatch within the female's oviduct without obtaining nourishment from it (birth of live offspring).

Palatines: paired bones in the anterior portion of the roof of the mouth.

Palatoquadrate: a series of bones or a cartilaginous rod constituting part of the roof of the mouth or upper jaw.

Palaearctic: a biogeographic region; of, or pertaining to the temperate and Arctic regions of Europe and Asia.

Papilla amphibiorum: a sensory area in the wall of the sacculus (one of the maculae of the vestibular apparatus) of the inner ear of amphibians.

Paraviviparous: an ecomorphological guild that includes species in which froglets hatch at various sites in or on the mother's body.

Parietal bones: cranial bones usually bordered by frontal bones anteriorly and occipital bone(s) posteriorly. Usually paired, but may fuse to form a single bone, or fuse with the frontal bones to form a single frontoparietal bone.

Paraphyletic: a group of taxa containing a hypothetical ancestor, but not all of its descendants; often characterized by the possession of plesiomorphic characters (see monophyletic; plesiomorphic; polyphyletic).

Parietal peritoneum: the layers of tissue that line the abdominal and pelvic cavities.

Parotoid gland: an enlarged external skin gland behind the eye in amphibians that secretes neurotoxic milky substance to deter predators.

Pedicellate: having or supported by a pedicel.

Penultimate: next to terminal.

Pericardial peritoneum: the layers of tissue that cover the heart.

Phalanx (pl. phalanges): a bone of a finger or toe.

Phylum: a primary division of a kingdom of living organisms.

Physiognomy: the external aspect.

Physiography: the scientific description and analysis of the natural features of the earth's surface.

Phytotelm (pl. phytotelmata): water-holding cavity in some part of a plant or plant product.

Plesiomorphic: primitive, as opposed to advanced; the quality of being group-defining only at a higher level.

Polychromatic: relating to, characteristic of, or exhibiting polychromatism (see polychromatism).

Polychromatism: the occurrence of several different colours and colour patterns in organisms of a same species (or in a population), independent of sexual variation.

Polymorphic: relating to, characteristic of, or exhibiting polymorphism (see polymorphism).

Polymorphism: the occurrence of several different morphological types in organisms of a same species (or in a population), independent of sexual variation.

Polyphyletic: a group of taxa containing some of the descendants of a hypothetical common ancestor, but not the hypothetical common ancestor itself; characterized by the possession of convergent characters (see monophyletic; paraphyletic).

Postorbital bone: cranial bone bordering the orbit posteriorly.

Postparietal bones: the series of paired bones on the posterodorsal surface of the skull.

Premaxilla (pl. premaxillae): one of a pair of bones located in front of and between the maxillary bones in the upper jaw of vertebrates; the anteriormost portion of the maxillary arch.

Presacral vertebrae: the vertebrae other than the sacral (pelvic) and caudal (tail) vertebrae.

Procoelous: a pattern of vertebral articulation in which the individual vertebrae have a concave anterior face and convex posterior face.

Prootic bone: a bone forming part of the auditory capsule.

Proximal: situated near the point of attachment or origin.

Pseudotail: the presence of a few postcloacal vertebrae in the terminal shield in some caecilians.

Pterygoid: a bone of the posterior palatal region (roof of the mouth).

Rank: to classify; a relative position in a classification.

Rheophilous: a generic term describing tadpoles adapted to live in microhabitats in the flowing parts of lotic systems.

Sacrum: a vertebra or vertebrae articulating with the pelvic girdle.

Sensu stricto: in the stricter sense; using a taxon restrictively in the sense of the original author.

Septomaxilla: a small bone between the nasal septum (which is the partition separating the two nasal cavities) and the maxilla (which is one of two identical bones that form the upper jaw).

Sexual dichromatism: an intraspecific difference in colour or colour pattern between the sexes.

Sexual dimorphism: an intraspecific morphological difference between the sexes.

Sinistral: of, or pertaining to the left side.

Species: a basic taxonomic category ranking below the genus (or subgenus) and consisting of related organisms capable of interbreeding and producing fertile offspring.

Splenic teeth: the teeth on the splenic bone in the lower jaw.

Superclass: a taxonomic category of related organisms ranking below a phylum and above a class.

Supratemporal bones: cranial bones situated in the temporal region.

Suspension-feeder: an ecomorphological guild that includes lentic tadpoles specialized in feeding on naturally suspended particles by pumping water in through the mouth, over the buccopharyngeal filtering system and out the spiracle.

Suspension-rasper: an ecomorphological guild that includes lentic tadpoles that apparently feed by filtering suspended particles from within the water column and rasping submerged surfaces.

Synapomorphy: a character shared by all basal members of a clade and derived from their hypothetical common ancestor (see monophyletic).

Tabular bones: cranial bones situated behind the supratemporal bones.

Taxon (pl. taxa): a particular taxonomic grouping, e.g. a particular species, genus, family, order, class, phylum or kingdom.

Tepui: a table-top mountain, typical of the Guiana Shield highlands.

Terminal: anatomical position pertaining to the end of a structure.

Terrestrial: adapted to live on land; consisting of, relating to, or being on land.

Tertiary: of third rank.

Tetralobate: having four lobes.

Tetrapod: literally an animal with four feet. Used here for members of the superclass Tetrapoda regardless the presence or absence of four limbs/feet.

Tibiale: the bone or cartilage of the tarsus that articulates with the tibia, which is

the inner of the two bones of the hindlimb.

Trilobate: having three lobes.

Truncate: terminating abruptly.

Ulna: the forearm.

Ultrasonic: of, or producing acoustic frequencies that are above the range audible by the human ear (*i.e.* frequencies above *ca.* 20,000 Hertz).

Urostyle: a styliform process forming the posterior extremity of the vertebral column.

Vacuum: a space that contains no air or other gas.

Vent: the cloacal opening.

Visceral peritoneum: the layers of tissue that cover the viscera (intestines).

Viviparous: live offspring develop within the oviduct or uterus by receiving nutrition from the mother.

Xeric: of, characterized by, or adapted to an arid habitat.

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