



Name: _____

The Pond vs. The Garden: A Tale of Two Cousins

In the shimmering pond where the lilies grow,
A sleek, green frog is ready to go.
With skin so smooth and a coat of slime,
He's diving and swimming most of the time.
He breathes through his lungs and his moist skin too,
A splash in the water is what he'll do!



But over the grass, by the garden wall,
A toad is waiting, steady and tall.
His skin is bumpy, his back is dry,
He watches the world with a golden eye.
He doesn't need puddles to feel just right,
He hides in the shade and hunts through the night.



The frog has legs that are powerful and long,
For leaping and jumping, sturdy and strong.
But the toad takes steps or a tiny hop,
He's built for the dirt where the shadows drop.
One likes the river, the lake, and the stream,
The other finds gardens a wonderful dream.

They both are amphibians, cousins and kin,
One with a "wart," one with smooth skin.
So look at the legs and feel for the dew,
To tell which is which—now it's up to you!



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1. What is the main purpose of this poem?
 - A) To explain how frogs and toads are exactly the same.
 - B) To prove that toads are better than frogs.
 - C) To teach readers how to catch a frog in a pond.
 - D) To describe the differences between how frogs and toads look and live.

2. If you found a creature with short legs walking through a dry flower bed, which animal would it most likely be?
 - A) A frog, because they like to explore gardens.
 - B) A toad, because they have short legs and can live in drier places.
 - C) A tadpole, because they are starting to grow legs.
 - D) A butterfly, because they also live in gardens.

3. The author says the frog's skin is like a "coat of slime." Why did the author use this comparison?
 - A) To help the reader imagine how wet and slippery the frog feels.
 - B) To show that the frog is wearing clothes.
 - C) To explain that the frog is cold.
 - D) To show that the frog is messy.

4. The author says the toad is "built for the dirt." What does this phrase most likely mean?
 - A) The toad is made out of mud and sand.
 - B) The toad's body and short legs are well-suited for living on the ground rather than in water.
 - C) The toad needs to take a bath because he is covered in dirt.
 - D) The toad is a very messy eater.