

COLORS

What colors do you see?

<input type="radio"/> Green	<input type="radio"/> Brown	<input type="radio"/> Black	<input type="radio"/> Gray	<input type="radio"/> White
<input type="radio"/> Blue	<input type="radio"/> Red	<input type="radio"/> Yellow	<input type="radio"/> Orange	

SALAMANDER SLEUTH

Field marks are used to help us identify types of species. These marks can include size, shape, colors, and patterns. Fill out this diagram for a salamander you've found, noting what features it has can help you identify what kind of salamander (or newt) it is when you get home.

TAIL

- ☐ Thin
- ☐ Thick

TOP PATTERN

- ☐ Bands
- ☐ Solid
- ☐ Stripes
- ☐ Mottled
- ☐ Spots
- ☐ Zigzags

SIDE PATTERN

- ☐ Spots
- ☐ Solid
- ☐ Mottled
- ☐ Stripes

NUMBER OF BACK TOES

- ☐ No rear feet
- ☐ 1 - 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5

Draw, color, or write in the salamander to help you take notes.

TRACK your hike at kidsinparks.com and get **FREE** prizes!

Thanks for joining us today!

Visit our website to find more **TRACK Trail** adventures near you!

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Kids in Parks is a program of the

BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY FOUNDATION

SALAMANDER SAFARI

With lots of streams, rivers, ponds, lakes, and rain, the Pacific Northwest is a great place for on a salamander safari. In fact, the region is home to more than 20 species of salamanders and newts. Use this brochure during your safari to look for and learn about these amazing creatures.

STOP Look, but DO NOT touch!

ALL salamanders are toxic to humans and can cause irritation. Touching salamanders can harm them by removing the moisture on their skin that helps them breathe.

SALAMANDER SEARCH

Search for salamanders under leaves, rocks, or logs on the forest floor. You can also look on or under rocks in a creek. Most of the salamanders that you see on the trail are called lungless salamanders. They don't have gills or lungs, and breathe through their skin!

Remember to be extra careful when moving rocks and logs to avoid harming any animals that may live under them. Please help the habitat by putting things back the way you found them.



Northwestern salamander
Ambystoma gracile



Clouded salamander
Aneides ferreus



Ensatina
Ensatina eschscholtzii

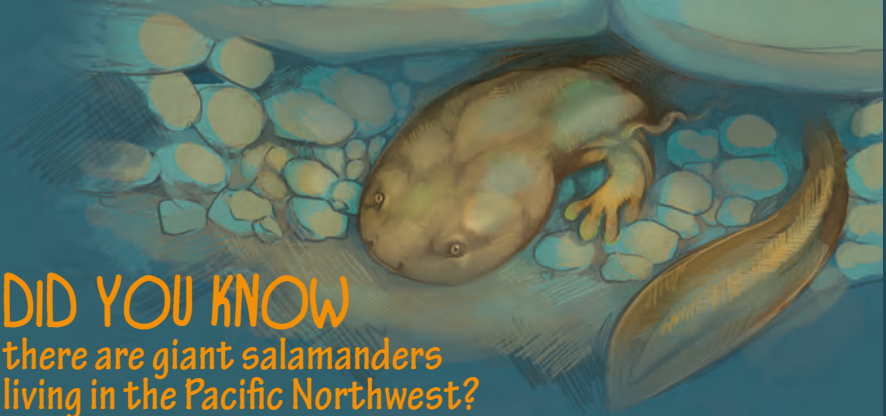


Western red-backed salamander
Plethodon vehiculum

DID YOU KNOW

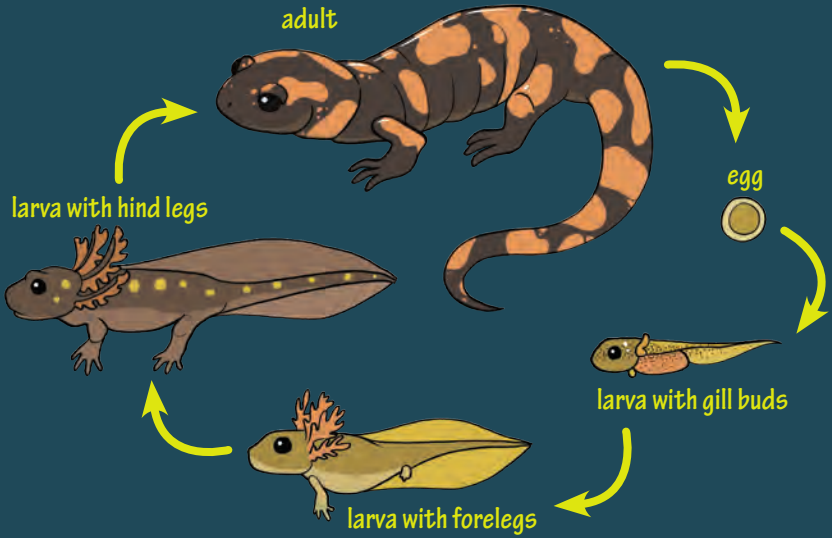
there are giant salamanders living in the Pacific Northwest?

There are two species of Pacific Giant Salamander living in Oregon. Growing up to 13 inches, the Coastal giant salamander (*Dicamptodon tenebrosus*) is the largest terrestrial salamander in North America. The Cope's giant salamander (*Dicamptodon copei*) are mostly aquatic and can grow to be 8 inches long.



SALAMANDER LIFE CYCLE

Like all amphibians, salamanders spend a portion of their life cycle in or near water. Most lay eggs in a body of water, and when these eggs hatch, the newborn salamanders, or larvae, develop gills and limbs for life underwater. As they grow up and head onto land, some develop lungs for breathing air while others breathe solely through their porous skin.



What's another animal that has a similar life cycle to a salamander?

SALAMANDER OR NEWT?

Similar to how a toad is a type of frog, a newt is a type of salamander! Unlike most salamanders, newts have rough, bumpy skin. They also have an extra stage in their life cycle. As juveniles, they live on land before returning to live in water as adults. Do you see any differences between the juvenile and adult newts shown below?



Juvenile Rough-skinned newt
(*Taricha granulosa*)



Adult Rough-skinned newt
(*Taricha granulosa*)

SALAMANDER SNACKS

Most salamanders hide and sleep during the day, and then come out at night to hunt. Salamanders are carnivores and eat mostly insects. Can you find some of their favorite foods on your hike today?



CENTIPEDES



FLIES



MAGGOTS



TERMITES



SNAILS



WORMS



SPIDERS



SLUGS



CRICKETS

SALAMANDER SQUIRM

Salamanders have short legs, making their bellies drag on the ground as they walk! Drop low like you're doing a push-up and try crawling. Pretend a predator is chasing you. How fast can you do the Salamander Squirm?

