

Name: _____



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States. That means when people look at bald eagles, they think about the United States. There's an animal that represents the U.S. territory of Puerto Rico too. That animal is the coquí (co-KEE). It's not official, but it's certainly loved!

The coquí is a tree frog. There are 17 kinds of coquí. All are native to Puerto Rico. They live in different places on the island. 13 can be found in El Yunque (YOON-kay), a

Coquí come in different sizes. They can be half an inch to just more than three inches (1.3–7.6 centimeters). Most are one to two inches (2.5–5 centimeters). They also come in different colors. Most are a muddy brown, yellow, and green.

Unlike most frogs, coquí have no webbing between their toes. They have little pads to help them grip things instead. They are also

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never tadpoles! Coquí hatch as fully formed frogs with only tiny tail nubs.

Coquí are mostly nocturnal. That means they are active at night. It's cooler and more humid at night. That's when the coquí climb high in the trees. That's also when you'll see—or *hear*—how they got their name.



spiders and lizards eat the coquí instead. So do snakes and birds.



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Female coquí lay 15–40 eggs four to six times a year. Males protect the eggs. They also keep the eggs from drying out. The eggs hatch in about three weeks. Then it takes the babies about eight months to grow up. Some coquí live five to six years, but most don't even live one year.

Coquí eat all sorts of insects and spiders. Big coquí also eat small lizards and other frogs. Larger

unable to breed.

However, the coquí as a whole isn't going anywhere anytime soon. Some species have even spread to places like Hawaii, Colombia, and some mainland U.S. states. Coquí aren't as loved in these places. They harm the insect and animal populations. Also, while Puerto Ricans love coquí's loud singing, most other people do not!

Big Love for a Tiny Frog

by Olivia Mendoza



1. When are you most likely to see a coquí?
 - a. at night when it's rainy
 - b. at night when it's dry
 - c. during the day when it's rainy
 - d. during the day when it's dry
2. What's the most likely reason coquí are never tadpoles?
 - a. There's not enough water in Puerto Rico for them to swim.
 - b. They are too small for tails to be useful.
 - c. They are born and live on land, mostly in trees.



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4. Reread the following lines.

There's an animal that represents the U.S. territory of Puerto Rico too.
The males use their calls to claim territory and attract females.

What does the word territory mean?

- a. land where frogs live
 - b. land belonging to something
 - c. a state
 - d. a home
5. Why do you think most kinds of coquí live in El Yunque?

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Big Love for a Tiny Frog



The following terms are vocabulary words from the article. Match the vocabulary word with its correct definition by writing the corresponding letter on the line.

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1. ____ humid | a. a danger to something specific |
| 2. ____ moist | b. kind of life that molds and mushrooms are |



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- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 6. ____ habitat | f. most active at night |
| 7. ____ native | g. group of animals that often live partly in water and partly on land |
| 8. ____ threat | h. something lightly wet |
| 9. ____ territory | i. land belonging to someone or something |
| 10. ____ nocturnal | j. moist air |

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Big Love for a Tiny Frog



In the article, "Big Love for a Tiny Frog," you read about the much-loved Puerto Rican frog, the coquí. You also learned that the coquí has spread outside of Puerto Rico.

Why do you think the coquí is so loved in Puerto Rico but not as loved everywhere else? Use different facts from the article to support your answer.



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ANSWER KEY

Big Love for a Tiny Frog

by Olivia Mendoza



1. When are you most likely to see a coquí?

a. at night when it's rainy

b. at night when it's dry

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Answers may vary. An example is: El Yunque is a tropical rainforest, so it is moist.

Since coquíes need to stay moist, it is a good place for them.

ANSWER KEY

Big Love for a Tiny Frog



The following terms are vocabulary words from the article. Match the vocabulary word with its correct definition by writing the corresponding letter on the line.

1. j humid

a. a danger to something specific



10. f nocturnal

j. moist air