



How do you know Axolotls are curious?

Because they axolotl questions!

A Salamander Mystery Word

In each set of letters, cross out the letters that appear more than once. Write the remaining letter in the line below each set to discover the mystery word.

J	P	E	M	L	K	T	R	O	M	N	U	B	F	V
R	J	S	I	T	M	R	O	L	Y	Y	J	C	Y	V
P	R	E	T	K	I	I	L	T	U	J	N	F	C	B

Salamander Word Search

Find the words in the left column in the word puzzle. Words can be diagonal and backwards, too.

- AMPHIBIAN
- AXOLOTL
- BIODIVERSITY
- EFT
- GILLS
- HEADWATER
- HELLBENDER
- LUNGLESS
- NEWT
- PONDS
- REGENERATION
- SALAMANDER
- STREAMS
- TAIL
- TONGUE

M R O N P S L L I G S T R B M
S Z E O A Q T G C A F O E I S
S T N G S I K W L D S N T O X
L D R Y E Z B A E S G G A D M
S M M E O N M I E N Q U W I J
B K Q W A A E L H D P E D V A
A A H C N M G R M P A R A E E
T U S D E N S D A G M J E R H
Q J E F U H C Y Z T T A H S Q
M R X L K P F F F F I T K I Y
R E D N E B L L E H F O N T X
L V K C O V N R I E F R N Y R
I H P S C V C F S U B B O J B
A B S U M B B O V I S V S T G
T Y X P A X O L O T L U R Y V

Connect the Dots

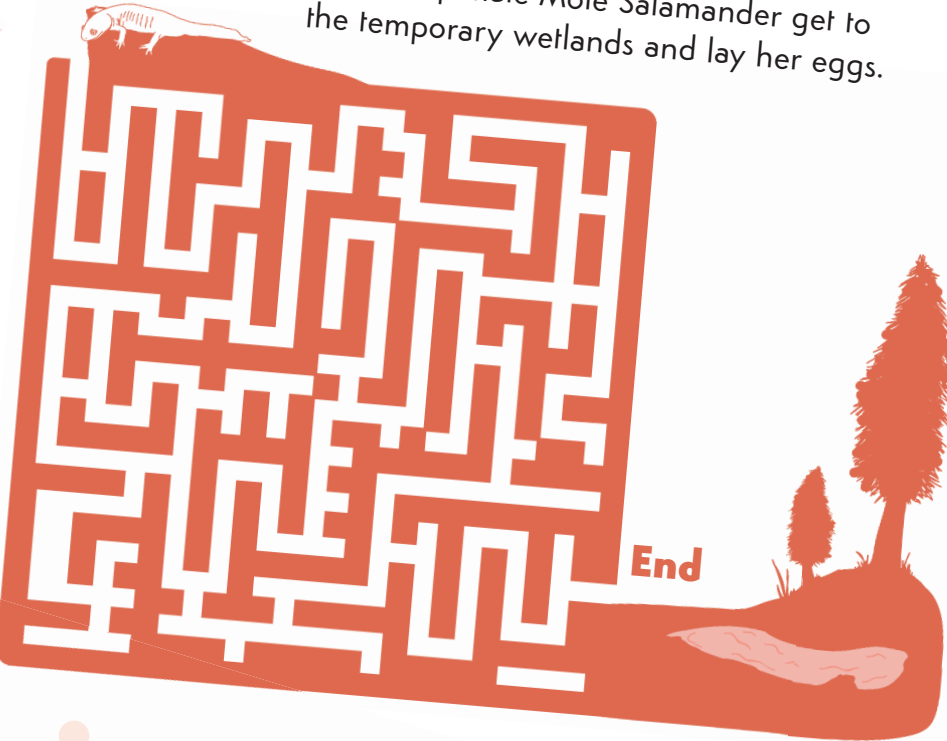
After you connect the dots on the image below, grab your crayons and markers and color it in!



Maze With a Mission

Start

Help the female Mole Salamander get to the temporary wetlands and lay her eggs.



SOUTHEASTERN SALAMANDERS



Spotted Salamander
Ambystoma maculatum



Eastern Newt
Notophthalmus viridescens



Red Salamander
Pseudotriton ruber



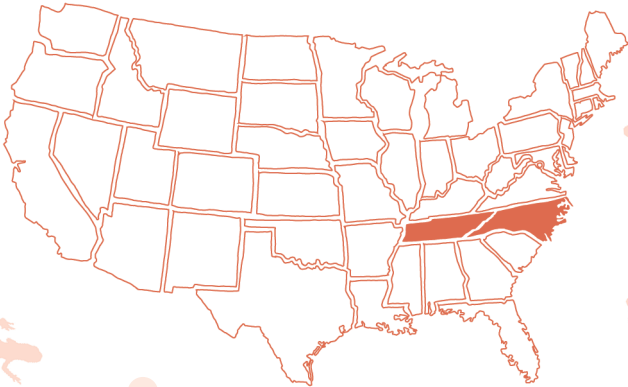
Hellbender
Cryptobranchus alleganiensis

Salamander Capital of the World

More than 45 species (types) of salamanders live in Tennessee and North Carolina. That's more than can be found in most countries, and there are plenty of others waiting to be discovered!

Many of these salamanders are known as "lungless salamanders." They breathe through their moist, thin skin. Most salamanders live at least part of their lives on land, but lungless salamanders rarely — if ever — leave the water.

There are so many salamanders in Tennessee and North Carolina that, as a group, they even weigh more than all of the fish, birds and mammals that share their cool mountain streams and forests! Because of this, salamanders are an extremely important part of the food web.



TRUE or FALSE

- 1. Some salamanders breathe through their skin.
- 2. The largest salamander is almost 4 feet long!
- 3. Newts are not salamanders.

1. True 2. True 3. False, all newts are salamanders, but not all salamanders are newts.



The Tennessee Aquarium in Action

Like all animals, salamanders need a place to live, also called a habitat. One of the worst dangers salamanders face is the loss of their homes because of cutting down forests or changes to their streams. Scientists also worry that climate change will affect salamanders. In the future, salamanders may struggle with warmer temperatures and longer and more severe droughts (times when rain doesn't fall).

To study how climate change could impact salamanders, the Tennessee Aquarium and its partners* have observed salamanders in the wild and using artificial streams at the Tennessee Aquarium Conservation Institute. They want to understand how climate warming could affect where salamanders live and how they interact with each other in their streams. This valuable information will help humans to protect salamanders in the future!

*Appalachian State University – Dr. Jon Davenport and the University of the South: Seawee – Dr. Kristen Cecala

Is it a Salamander or a Lizard?



Lizards usually have external ear-openings and clawed toes.



Salamanders don't have scales.



Salamanders have four toes on their front legs.



Marbled Salamander
Ambystoma opacum