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# Frogs

Ann Kelleher

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## Frogs / Ann Kelleher

After the tadpole stage  
frogs take as long as five years to mature.  
Some survive to forty  
frequently changing skins by tugging  
them from toes to heads  
into their mouths.

Their tongues are fastened  
in the fronts of their wide jaws  
pointing backwards  
until they flip them out to catch insects.

All frogs have teeth  
but their eyes are the real keys  
to their digestion.  
Thin skin separates the eyes from the throats.

When frogs eat  
they close their lids  
to push the bulging eyeballs down  
against the trapped insects

forcing them  
through their throats into their stomachs.

## “Bee-Wolves” / Ann Kelleher

One digger wasp, *Philanthus*  
or “Bee-Wolf”  
eats only honey bees.