

Poison-Arrow Frogs

The brightly colored frogs featured in Triazzle are commonly known as poison-arrow frogs. They're called poison-arrow frogs because certain varieties of these frogs produce toxins which are used to coat blowgun darts. These frogs are found in the Central and South American rain forests and are small enough to sit comfortably on a penny.

Poison-arrow frogs are very aggressive in defending their territory, and unlike many other frog varieties, are active in the daytime. Their bright colors warn potential predators that they won't taste very good.

The six poison-arrow frogs in Triazzle are:

Three Striped - The Three Striped gets its name from the green, yellow and black stripes along its body. Three Striped frogs feed on ants, spiders, and other insects-the staple diet of most frogs.

Dyeing - The Dyeing frog is a purple and yellow frog with a black pattern. Like most frogs, the Dyeing frog doesn't actually drink water but instead absorbs moisture through its very thin skin. This makes the wet rain forests a particularly suitable environment for all kinds of frogs.

Lehman's - This frog is easily identifiable by its prominent orange and black stripes. As a poison-arrow frog, the Lehman's bright colors warn away predators with its threat of poison. The poison produced by these frogs is strong enough to paralyze small animals.

Kokoa-Pa - The Kokoa-Pa has an unique black pattern on its yellow body. Male Kokoa-Pas, like all male frogs, croak to attract females. In fact, each frog species has a unique croak or ribbet to attract females. Females are silent for the most part and are usually attracted to males with the loudest croak or ribbet.

Turquoise - Turquoise poison-arrow frogs are beautiful blue frogs with black spots. Poison-arrow frogs reproduce by laying eggs; the female frog selects an appropriate location, usually close to water or in water, and lays a number of eggs. Turquoise frogs, however, lay their eggs in plants called bromeliads, which contain water in their centers. These eggs hatch into tadpoles while still in the bromeliads where the mother Turquoise frog feeds them until they mature and are large enough to live on their own.

Peruvian - Peruvian frogs are bright red with black spots and blue-tipped limbs. Unlike the Turquoise frog mentioned above, Peruvian frogs carry their tadpoles on their backs until they are old enough to survive on their own.