

# Blue Spotted Salamander



# Origin

- Eastern central United States and Canada
- \_\_\_\_\_ provinces
- Northern \_\_\_\_\_
- Great Lakes region

# Characteristics

- Slender salamander that is \_\_\_\_\_ inches in length with a long tail.
- Gray to blue-black with blue spots on its sides, \_\_\_\_\_, and legs.

# Characteristics cont...

- It has \_\_\_ toes on front feet, and \_\_\_ on the back feet.
- It has 12 vertical, or coastal, \_\_\_\_\_.



# Habitat cont...

- Likes small ponds
- Often takes shelter \_\_\_\_\_ damp leaves, moss, or logs



# Diet

- Eats a wide variety of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Also eats small \_\_\_\_\_ such as: slugs, earthworms, spiders, snails, and centipedes

# Reproduction

- Blue spotted salamanders like to reproduce in \_\_\_\_\_ ponds, this decreases the chance of any predators coming to harm the eggs.
- The male salamander will constrict the female with his front limbs, then rub his chin on her head. He will then release a packet of sperm, called \_\_\_\_\_, at the bottom of the pond.
- The male will then try to \_\_\_\_\_ the female on the sperm, and if it works out, she will accept the sperm to fertilize her eggs.

# Reproduction Continued...

- The female will then lay her eggs at the bottom of the pond, where the eggs can attach to rocks, plants, logs, or \_\_\_\_\_.
- The larvae will hatch anywhere between \_\_\_\_\_ weeks, and they are born with external gills and no legs. They will eat insects, worms, and small crustaceans.
- The larvae growing into an adult salamander depends on how much \_\_\_\_\_ is available.

# Behavior

- The blue spotted salamander is very \_\_\_\_\_, and only comes out at night, or when the weather is \_\_\_\_\_ or damp.

# Defense

- When this salamander feels threatened, it will curl its tail up, and release a \_\_\_\_\_ from the glands on its tail.
- If a predator were to attack, the salamander would excrete the toxins into the predators \_\_\_\_\_.

