



Western Spadefoot Toad

The Western Spadefoot Toad is an amphibian. It's called a spadefoot because it has special pads on its back feet that it uses like shovels to dig a home in the dirt.

After a heavy summer rainstorm, spadefoots will dig out of the dirt to look for a puddle formed by the rain to find a mate. In these pools of rainwater, female toads can lay over 1,000 eggs. The eggs hatch quickly and grow from tadpole to young toads in as little as 14 days.

When the rainy season is over and the ground dries up, the toads use their back feet to burrow backward five to ten feet deep into the soil. There they will stay until the next heavy summer rainstorm. That can be as long as ten years in some desert areas.