

**SLIME-
INATORS**
& Other
Slippery Tricksters

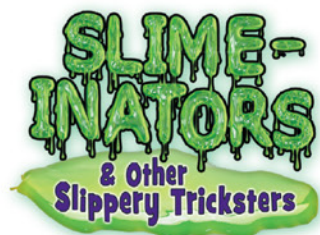
POISON SLIMERS

**POISON
DART FROGS,
SEA CUCUMBERS,
AND MORE**

by Ellen Lawrence



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AND MORE**

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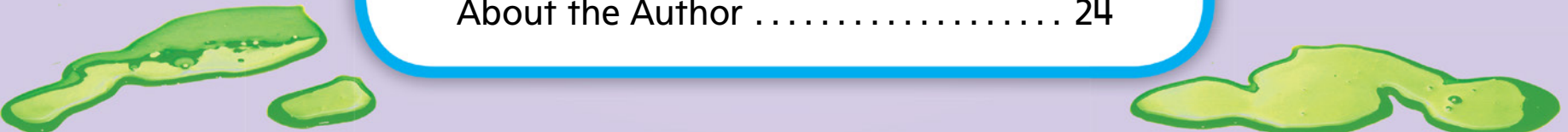
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Slimy and Deadly

A tiny yellow frog is climbing on a leafy tree in a rain forest.

Suddenly, a large black bird lands on a nearby branch.

Is the frog about to become the bird's next meal? Think again!

The yellow creature is a poison dart frog, and its body is covered with **toxic** slime.

The bird knows that eating the slimy frog will mean instant death!



a black caracara bird



golden poison
dart frog

slimy skin

A poison dart frog secretes, or releases, slime from its skin. The slime contains a deadly poison that's made by **glands** in the animal's body.

Killer Slime!

There are many kinds of poison frogs.

If a **predator** tries to eat one of these frogs, it will become paralyzed.

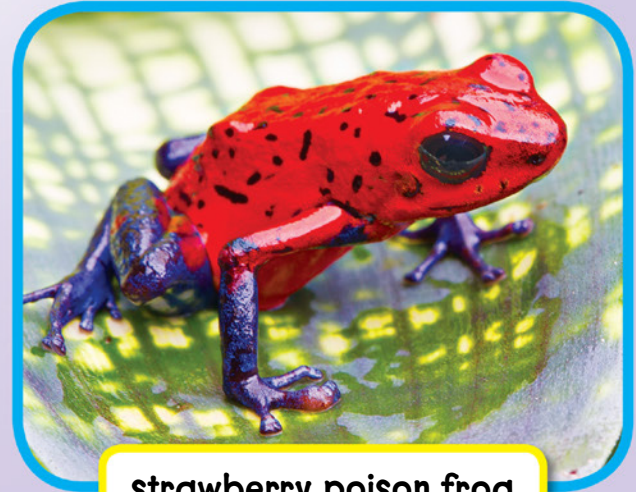
The frog's poisonous slime will make it impossible for the predator to move.

Poison frogs get their poison from the foods they eat.

They feed on toxic ants and beetles and store the poison inside their bodies.



blue poison frog



strawberry poison frog





A poison frog's colorful skin tells its enemies that it's dangerous to eat. How do animals learn that a frog's bright colors mean danger?

(The answer is on page 24.)

Native people who live in the rain forest wipe poison from golden poison dart frog's skin and put it on the tips of darts. Then, the darts are used for hunting. This is how the frogs got their name!

golden poison
dart frog

dart