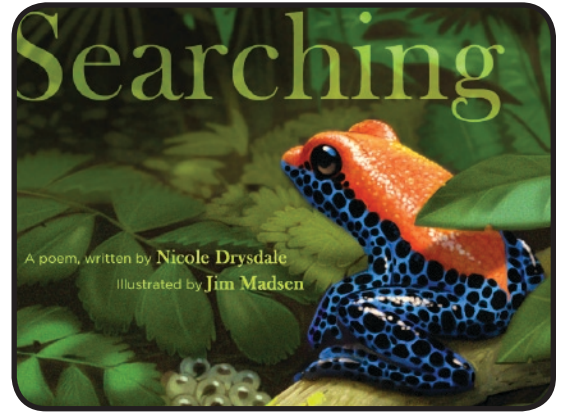


Searching

Written by Nicole Drysdale
Illustrated by Jim Madsen



Crick, crick, croak. A frog
peeks her head
through the rainforest leaves.
Her eggs are hidden in
the foliage of the floor.

Wiggle, wiggle, squiggle. The eggs
begin to move.
The frog must find a home
where her tadpoles
can grow.

Hop, hop, hop. The frog
starts her search.
She finds a warm, wet stream
where her tadpoles
can grow.

HISS, HISS. A snake
slithers toward the stream
to hunt.
Tadpoles would not be safe
with a snake for a neighbor.

Hop, hop, hop. The frog
moves higher.
She finds a big, thick branch
where her tadpoles
can grow.

GRRR, GROWL. A jaguar
leaps onto the branch
to rest.
Tadpoles would not be cozy
sharing a branch with a jaguar.

Hop, hop, hop. The frog
climbs to the canopy.
She finds a limb's comfy curve
where her tadpoles
can grow.

CHITTER, CHATTER. A monkey
swings to the limb
to eat.
Tadpoles would not be peaceful
with monkeys swinging by.

Hop, hop, hop. The frog
looks around.
She finds a large leafy plant
where her tadpoles
can grow.

SPLISH, SPLASH. The frog
plops into a perfect pool of water
to rest.
Tadpoles would be safe, cozy, and peaceful
inside this leafy plant.

Crick, crick, croak. The frog
hops to her hatching eggs.
She carries her tadpoles
up, up, up to the perfect pool
where they will grow
into frogs.