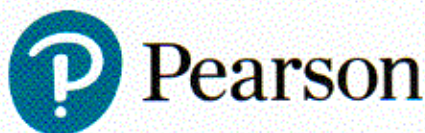


BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE



Rough-skinned newt, *Taricha granulosa*

At first glance, the rough-skinned newt, *Taricha granulosa*, may appear unremarkable. Although shown enlarged on the front cover, an adult newt is actually small enough to fit on the palm of your hand. But don't let its size fool you. With a powerful defense mechanism against predators, this little amphibian packs a deadly punch, earning it a larger-than-life reputation. In this edition of *Biological Science*, one of the many things you will explore is the fascinating tale of the rough-skinned newt. The story begins with a local legend about the mysterious deaths of three hunters in Oregon that sparked the curiosity of a biology undergraduate student (see page 17, following Chapter 1). The rest of the story unfolds bit-by-bit in a series of linked case studies that end each unit. As you read the story and answer questions, you will see how biologists become detectives as they unravel the workings and evolution of the newt's defense, and the lessons they learn about the living world. On this journey, you'll discover how concepts are connected across multiple levels of biology, from molecules, cells, and genetics to evolution, physiology, and ecology.



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