Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_KEY\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

World’s Smallest Frog

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| **Learning Targets:** |
| I know what common affixes and roots mean. |
| I can use affixes and roots to help to figure out words. |
| I can figure out the meaning of a word using context clues. |
| I can make sure my guesses about a words meaning are correct by looking them up in a dictionary. |

Directions: Read the article “World’s Smallest Frog” and determine the meaning of the words listed in the chart. Be sure to create a definition of the word and explain how you figure it out.

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| **WORD** | **MEANING** | **EXPLANATION** |
| Vertebrate | Animal with a backbone | Definition follows comma |
| Herpetologist | Someone who studies amphibians | Later in the paragraph |
| Researchers | People who collect data | research: way of collecting data  er: people who  s: plural |
| Enlarge | To make bigger in size | En: make  Large: big, as in size |
| **WORD** | **MEANING** | **EXPLANATION** |
| Unknown | Not familiar | Un – not  Known – recognized or familiar |
| Ichthyologist | A scientist who studies fish | After the word in the text |
| comparison | The act of examining similarity and differences | compare: to examine for similarities and difference  ison: the act of |
| Invading | Moving into | “invading this open niche of wet leaf litter that is full…” |

1. Look back in the last paragraph. Use context clues to try to decide what the word “niche” means and then look it up in a dictionary and record the actual definition here. If there is more than one definition, try to pick the one that seems to relate to the article.

**a.** The function or position of an organism or population within an ecological community. OR

**b.** The particular area within a habitat occupied by an organism.

2. Look back in the last paragraph. It mentions “litter,” but it doesn’t mean pollution. What do you think it means here?

Definition: collection of leaves that are dropped by trees, small seeds, etc.

How did you know: Leaf is in front of the word, and it’s on the forest floor. Also description of scientists picking up a handful of it.