Races D6 / Frog-dog



Name: Frog-dog
Designation: Sentient
Classification: Reptile
Attribute Dice: 12D

Dex: 2D/3D
Know: 2D/5D
Mech: 2D/3D
Perc: 2D/6D
Str: 2D/4D
Tech: 2D/3D

Special Abilities:

Unassuming: Although they were both sentient and highly intelligent, frog-dogs were often mistaken for simple animals. They did nothing to change this misconception and sometimes even used it to their advantage. A frog-dog might deign to live as the pet of another sentient being, for example, trading a life of denigration for a guaranteed source of food. Others worked as assassins and spies, using their unassuming appearance to get into position to complete a particular mission. This gives them a +1D bonus to sneak and hide skill rolls.

Bite: The teeth betrayed the frog-dogs' carnivorous diet. Members of the species ate animals of many kinds, although insects formed the main part of their nutrition. This bite does Str+1D damage when used.

Story Factors:

Fight like Animals, Die like Animals: Because most species see Frog-dogs as animals, they often aren't taken seriously when they attempt to communicate, giving them a 1D penalty to all bargain and persuasion rolls as the target is likely to see them as a talking beast (like a parrot) rather than anyone actually trying to communicate. For this reason, many Frog-dog deals are done remotely through voice only communications, with those hiring Frog-dogs as bounty hunters or assassins never knowing the species of the person they are hiring.

Average height: 0.5 meters
Average mass: 35 kilograms
Skin color: Brown, green, orange-red, purple, yellowish dun
Eye color: Purple, red, yellow
Distinctions: Toothy maw, independently focusable eyes, throaty call
Diet: Primarily insects
Language: None
Move: 10/12
Size: 0.5 meters tall

Description: Frog-dogs were a species of sentient reptiles with both frog-like and dog-like features. Each member of the species had a large cranium that sported two large, protruding eyes and long, pointed teeth that stuck out from the mouth. Two squat limbs with five-fingered hands supported

the body, although a frog-dog at rest kept his or her large, bulbous mid-section on the ground as well. The body tapered to a long, thin tail. Frog-dogs caught insects and other prey with a long, sticky tongue that darted from the mouth and retrieved the desired meal. The creatures hopped and waddled from place to place. Frog-dog vocalizations sounded like throaty barks and croaks.

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Biology and appearance

Frog-dogs were sentient reptiles with features of both frogs and dogs. They had two limbs that featured five-fingered hands with craggy gray nails. Nevertheless, the shortness and splayed arrangement of these appendages kept the frog-dog body low to the ground, making each member of the species rest on his or her protuberant belly when at rest. In this position, most frog-dogs stood a mere 0.5 meters tall, at which height a mass of 35 kilograms was normal—although at least one specimen on Tatooine grew to at least four times that size. The body tapered to a long, thin tail toward the species' dorsal regions. Rows of bony lumps ran along the back and down the length of the tail. Frog-dogs were covered in warty hides whose pigmentation varied from individual to individual: possible colorations included brown, green, orange-red, purple, and yellowish dun, although boils, warts, and mottling of another color could appear as well. Frog-dog skin hung loosely on the frame; coupled with their large warts, this created folds so deep that small objects could be hidden inside the flaps.

A huge cranium dominated the forequarters of a frog-dog's body. Two bulbous, heavy-lidded, frog-like eyes protruded from the top of the visage, their coloration varying from one frog-dog to the next. Possible hues included purple, red, and yellow. Frog-dogs had excellent vision, and they could focus their eyes independently. A wide maw full of row upon row of yellowed, needle-sharp teeth constituted the species' only other major facial feature. The lower jaw jutted out so as to allow these teeth to protrude even when the mouth was shut.

The teeth betrayed the frog-dogs' carnivorous diet. Members of the species ate animals of many kinds, although insects formed the main part of their nutrition. A frog-dog fed him- or herself by flicking out the long, prehensile tongue at a target. A sticky fluid allowed the tongue's bulbous tip to adhere to what it touched, so with a quick retraction, a frog-dog's surprised prey could find itself snapped up and in the frog-dog's mouth instantaneously. Frog-dogs in captivity ate nearly anything, including moldy bantha fat, gelatinous chuff, and pieces of Viridian termite jaws.

Overall, the frog-dogs' appearance made members of other sentient species regard them as simple-minded beasts at best, horrifying monsters at worst. Frog-dogs had two sexes, male and female. At least one member of the species carried smaller frog-dogs in the mouth, belching them out when threatened.

Society and culture

In the view of most other sentient species in the galaxy, frog-dogs seemed like non-sentient animals. The squat creatures had no native technology or language, and they seemed content to devote most of their time to eating and slobbering on themselves. Some sentient beings even took frog-dogs as pets, feeding them scraps when they begged with plaintive croaking, and keeping them harnessed and leashed with devices that fit around the frog-dog's head and forelimbs.

In reality, this was just a front. Frog-dogs were highly intelligent beings. Frog-dogs found it in their best interest to hide their intelligence from others. This afforded them regular access to food—they could eat scraps and crumbs or even something more appealing, like a Jawa—and it enhanced their usefulness as spies and assassins, thus providing them with employment. Frog-dogs understood the value of credits and honored contracts such as bounties to which they had agreed.

Despite their lack of language, frog-dogs communicated their emotions via hisses, whines, croaks of laughter, and a distinctive cry that sounded like a cross between a bark and a croak. Their vocalizations could be both loud and throaty. Some members of the species had both a common name, known to outsiders, and a formal name, revealed only to close confidants. Frog-dogs relied heavily on their tongues to interact with the world around them; they tasted people to get a feel for them, as they could tell a great deal about a person by his or her flavor. The tongue also expressed emotion: curling in disgust, or tickling the roof of the mouth with joy.

Frog-dogs at rest often lay with the belly on the ground and the legs splayed, but some also stood upright with the tail held outstretched. They moved by shuffling on their two legs or by hopping. Despite this form of locomotion, frog-dogs could move with great stealth. If threatened, frog-dogs could fight by biting with their sharp teeth and shaking its opponent back and forth.

History

As early as the period after the signing of the Treaty of Coruscant, frog-dogs were known in the galaxy. At the time, a Huttball sports team took its name from the two-legged species. The Frog-dogs played a game against a rival team, the Rotworms, on Nar Shaddaa, the smuggler's moon.

Frog-dogs at large in the galaxy often found employ as assassins and spies, occupations in which they took advantage of the fact that other sentients often took them for non-sentient beasts. Other members of the species worked as watchbeasts, keeping guard for intruders on their employers' property.

Frog-dogs were present in the Mos Eisley spaceport on the planet Tatooine by 32 BBY. Years later, a frog-dog had joined the court of Jabba the Hutt in his palace on the desert world.

Buboicullaar, known to the members of Jabba's court as Bubo, lived in the Hutt's palace in 4 ABY. He was considered the pet of a tribe of Jawas and given the official role of Jabba's personal watchbeast, tasked with alerting the court to anyone entering the throne room. When the droids C-3PO and R2-D2 arrived in the palace in 4 ABY—and the protocol droid kicked him—Bubo announced their presence by giving a throaty croak. The Gran Ree-Yees was placed in charge of the frog-dog's feeding and care, which prompted him to use Bubo in an attempt to kill Jabba. The Gran hid a demolitions transmitter among Bubo's flaps of skin. Nevertheless, Bubo hated his keeper, and he ate the device, foiling Ree-Yees's plan.

Bubo played up the misconception that he was non-sentient because, in reality, he was a spy and assassin who had been contracted to kill the Hutt; playing dumb allowed him unfettered access to the palace and proximity to his target. During his stay, Bubo befriended the B'omarr monks who

roamed the palace halls in brain walkers. The frog-dog studied under the guidance of the monk Evilo Nailati, and the monks were the only inhabitants of the palace to whom Bubo revealed his sentience. After Jabba was killed by the enslaved Princess Leia Organa during the Battle of the Great Pit of Carkoon, Bubo gave up his life as an assassin and voluntarily allowed the B'omarr monks to remove his brain from his cranium and place it in a brain walker. In this form, he spent his time pondering philosophy and the universe.

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