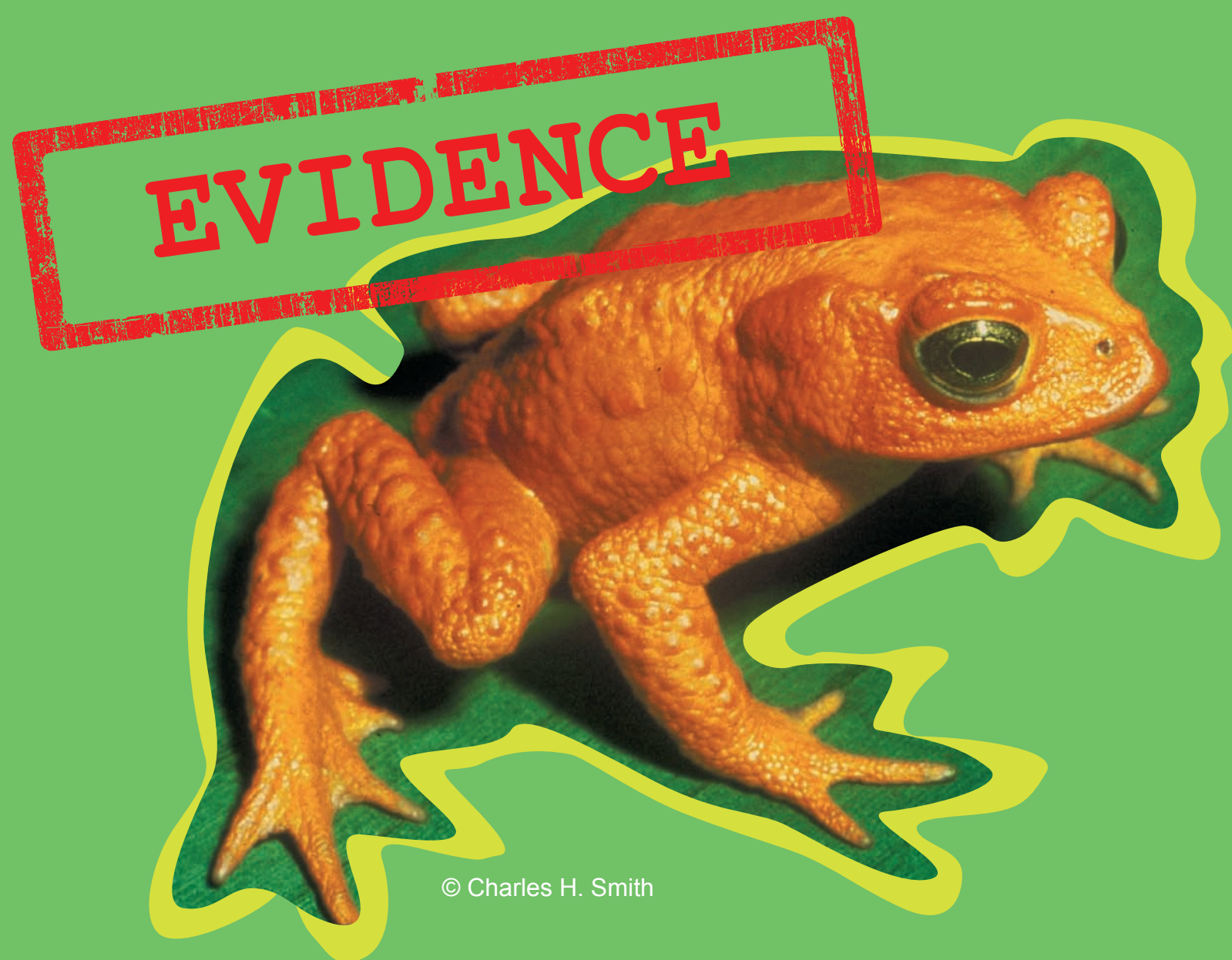


MOUNTAINS

Ever noticed the caps of snow that stay on high mountains all year round? As well as this 'snow-line' some mountains have a 'tree-line' above which trees don't grow, these are the extremes of habitats. Climate change will play havoc with the mountain's narrow bands of life, shrinking them and forcing them higher. If the speed of climate change is quicker than a species' ability to adjust to life higher up the mountain, or their habitat disappears, that species will perish.



This mountain vegetation knows how to live on the edge. Changes to the environment will push these areas upwards, leaving its inhabitants behind.



The golden toad of Costa Rica, now extinct.

Mountain habitats have given the world its first example of an extinction brought about by recent climate change. The golden toad of Costa Rica lost its essential living conditions and hasn't been seen since 1989. Amphibians like this toad are sensitive to changing levels of mist or temperature, so their plight is an early sign of the danger mountain habitats face.

Himalayan newt



Madagascan gecko



Gelada baboon



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