



Conservation Made Simple



ACTIVITY

Make a Toad Abode

A friendly toad will gobble up many harmful bugs that come into your garden. You can try to get toads to move in by making toad houses. Interestingly enough, once toads make their home in your garden, they may stay there for the rest of their lives - which can be as long as ten years!

Things you need:

- ★ Clay Pot (4 inch)
- ★ Paints or Paint Pens - bolder colors work better

What to do:

Have kids paint their own pot with the paints provided.

- After the paint has dried, have the kids take the pot home and use it as a home for a toad.
- Place the clay pot on the ground, upside down, and prop up one side with a small rock. This is the toad's house.
- The house is ready. Now hope a toad moves in.



Activity Tips:

- Create a display with dirt, live plants and a few sample pots that have been painted. Place some plastic frogs/toads by the pot to demonstrate how the abode works.
- Set up this activity in a location where kids can stop back and pick up their pots after the paint has dried.
- Paints - bolder paint colors work better. Paint pens are less messy than paint and paint brushes and do not require a lengthy drying time.
- To better plan for the number of clay pots needed, this activity can be set up for specific times throughout the day so only a set number of pots are available for each time slot. If this activity is located in a heavy visitor area, then you will need to plan on the majority of your visitors participating in it.
- Remind visitors that toad accommodations can be as simple as a board lying on the ground, if there's a little room beneath it. Also, there are lots of commercial toad houses available these days.