

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS (SUGGESTED GRADE LEVEL IN PARENTHESES)

### INDOORS/CLASSROOM

- All Creatures Great & Small** (pre-K-6) differences and similarities between mammals, birds, reptiles, fish & amphibians
- Animals of the Underground** (Pre-K-6) an introduction to wildlife that use underground habitats for shelter, finding food, and more. Adaptations discussed and examples shown. *(A visit to the Harmony Arboretums' "Chipmunk Tunnel" is recommended as a follow-up activity for more on fossorial habitats).*
- Aquatic Exotic Species** (6-12) how introduced plant and animal species harm our natural ecosystems
- Astronomy** (3-12) a basic introduction to astronomy and what we see in the nighttime sky, using a computer software program to show stars & constellations, discuss star stories, and more
- Environmental Careers** (6-12) a look into different environmental fields and schooling needed
- Flying Colors** (pre-K-3) all about butterflies and the butterfly life cycle
- Habitat Chat** (4-12) learn about different wildlife habitats, survival adaptations, and threats to habitat
- Have Seed, Will Travel** (2-6) different types of seed dispersal and how plants "travel"
- Meet Henry Hydro Oxide – H<sub>2</sub>O** (PreK-3) the water cycle story and how humans affect it
- Nocturnal Animals** (PreK-6) an introduction to some of Wisconsin's nocturnal animals and their adaptations for nighttime survival
- Owl Pellets (Gr. 2-8)** *Who's eating who?* Learn about Wisconsin's native owl species, adaptations for hunting, and their place in food chains. Students will dissect an 'owl pellet', try to identify prey and bones, and make a 'bone collage' of the parts found.
- Reptiles & Amphibians** (prek-8) Slithery snakes, tough turtles, slimy salamanders, and more! This program studies the similarities and differences between reptiles and amphibians, or herptiles
- Skins & Skulls** (K-12) an introduction to the mammals of Wisconsin, with real furs & skulls
- Skulduggery** (6-12) wildlife skull and teeth adaptations needed for survival & skull identification
- Tricky Tracks** (5-12) advanced animal tracks, tracking techniques, and making plaster tracks
- Water Conservation & Pollution Prevention** (4-12) water use, pollution, and conservation/protection
- Wells & Groundwater: Deep Subject** (6-12) demonstration using a groundwater model
- Wetland Ecology** (4-12) learn about different kinds of wetlands & their importance to wildlife and humans
- Wildlife Facts & Tracks:** (PreK-4) introduction to animal tracks & making an animal tracks book
- Winter Wildlife Survival** (PreK-6) discussion and activities about winter wildlife adaptations
- You Eat Like a Bird** (2-6) beak adaptations – what and how different birds eat

### OUTDOORS (weather permitting)

- Aquatic Creepy Critters** (4-12) up-close study of aquatic habitats and the relationships between aquatic macroinvertebrates and water quality & aquatic macroinvertebrate identification
- Astronomy** (3-12) history of astronomy, constellation myths, basic stargazing tour, telescope use, star charts, etc. *(please note this is an evening activity, but if required an indoors version can be presented)*
- Bingo Bugs** (pre-K-4) scavenger hunt for insects and signs they are around
- Birding Basics** (PreK-4) using legs, beaks and body shapes to help identify birds
- Colorful Confusion** (2-8) different kinds of camouflage and how animals "hide" from predators
- Inspect an Insect** (4-8) characteristics of insects and how they are adapted for different habitats
- Mark your Territory** (4-8) Participants discover how animals use scent to mark territories, interact with other animals, and find food through a brief discussion and then participating in two different activities
- Nature Art** (1-6) How humans use nature for art, and then a short outside hike to collect natural materials for use in a take-home art project. Materials provided.
- Nature Games** (1-8) A variety of fun nature games & activities to help students learn about concepts like habitat, adaptations, wildlife, populations, and more
- Natures Recyclers** (3-8) investigating insects, fungi, and plants that aid decomposition
- Trees Inside and Out** (4-12) trees/forests, tree parts & functions, basic tree identification & forestry topics
- Tree Identification** (4-12) Basic tree identification using tree characteristics & introduces the use of an identification key on a tree ID hike. Can also be used alone or as a follow-up program to "Trees ~ Inside & Out"
- Tree Tots** (PreK-3) introduction to trees, tree parts & functions, and a hike to study trees up close
- Water Quality Investigation** (6-12) water quality study using chemical test kits and other equipment

Full descriptions of these programs are available upon request or can be found at: [www.marionettecounty.com](http://www.marionettecounty.com). Click "Departments", then "Land Information" and then the "Environmental Education" link at left. Then click "TOAD" in the left-hand menu. You can also type "TOAD" in the search box on the Marinette County home page and go to the first result link. Don't forget to check out our photos and the teacher comments on our website

*"If you think in terms of a year, plant a seed; if in terms of ten years, plant trees; if in terms of 100 years, teach the people" ~ Confucius*

## EQUIPMENT AND RESOURCES

### AQUATIC STUDIES EQUIPMENT

We have a wide range of rubber hip boots for aquatic studies. They are men's sized ranging from 3 to 14. They are mostly even sizes, and no half sizes.

We also have available:

- 10 D-nets
- 12 white plastic tubs
- 20 magnifiers
- 7 Aqua-Scopes (to look underneath the water)
- 20 plastic forceps & spoons
- 23 field guides – Pond Life
- 1 poster – key to Macroinvertebrate Life in the River & Biotic index for Streams & Rivers
- 3 sets freshwater invertebrates flash cards
- 10 freshwater invertebrate quick-guides (laminated)

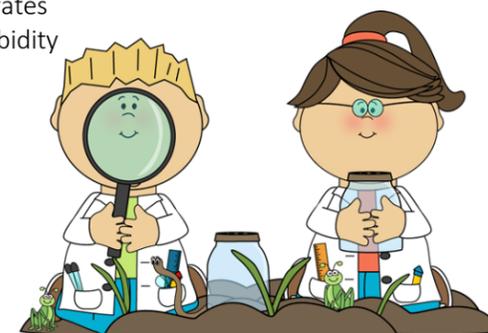


### HANDOUTS

- - Key to Life in the Pond/Common Aquatic Plants
- - Key to Macroinvertebrate Life in the River/Common Stream & River Invertebrates
- - Common Aquatic Insect Checklist

### WATER QUALITY MONITORING EQUIPMENT

- 1 waterproof pH tester
- 5 pH paper dispensers
- 1 plastic Kemmer bottle (takes water samples)
- 4 Secchi disks (measures water clarity)
- 1 transparency tube (measures water clarity)
- 3 plankton nets (LaMotte #5)
- 1 YSI 85 (50 ft. cable) (measures conductivity, dissolved oxygen & temp profiles)
- 3 depth & temperature recorders
- 1 hand held depth finder
- 1 Hydrolab water quality multiprobe
- 11 field thermometers (both C & F)
- La Motte water quality TesTabs kits
  - ⇒ Dissolved Oxygen
  - ⇒ Phosphates
  - ⇒ Nitrates
  - ⇒ Turbidity
  - ⇒ pH



### GENERAL NATURE STUDY MATERIALS

- 14 terrestrial insect nets
- 20 insect field guides
- 25 magnifying glasses
- 22 binoculars/22 kid binoculars
- 15 bug observation jars
- 20 bird field guides
- 20 animal tracks field guides
- 20 tree field guides
- Plaster track-making materials & rubber tracks
- Wildlife skins & skulls (deer, fisher, otter, wolf, fox, coyote, chipmunk, groundhog, bobcat, gray squirrel, badger, long & short-tailed weasel, mink, raccoon, black bear, beaver, mink, muskrat, skunk, porcupine, opossum, red squirrel, pine marten)
- Various nature topic posters & displays (laminated)



### OTHER EDUCATIONAL EQUIPMENT

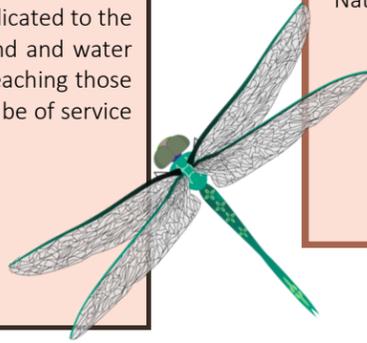
- *EnviroScope* tabletop model (demonstrates non-point source pollution & runoff)
- Groundwater model
- "Safari in a Box" – habitat education materials
- Aquatic Exotic Species Trunk (information and specimens of zebra mussels, purple loosestrife, Eurasian water milfoil, and rusty crayfish)
- Becker Bottle (demonstrates parts per million)
- Video flex camera (attaches to a microscope or TV for demonstrations in the classroom)
- 2 Brock field microscopes

### ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE CENTER

Don't forget about books, videos, magazines, cds, and cassette tapes. We have all types of environmental education resources available from curriculum and activity guides to children's books. See the complete list on our website or ask for a copy.

## WHO WE ARE

TOAD is operated by Marinette County Land & Water Conservation Division. We are a county agency dedicated to the protection, restoration and wise use of our land and water resources. Education is an important part of reaching those goals, and TOAD is a way we can reach out and be of service to the public.



## DONATIONS TO TOAD MADE BY:

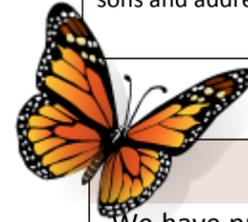
National Association for Interpretation, Region 5  
Herbert H. Kohl Charities, Inc.  
The Kimberly-Clark Corporation  
Safari Club International Foundation Sables  
Thyssen Krupp Waupaca  
Wal-Mart of Marinette  
Friends of Camp Bird



Land Information Department  
Land & Water Conservation Division  
1926 Hall Avenue  
Marinette WI 54143-1717

## WHAT IS T.O.A.D. ?

**TOAD** (Teaching Outdoor Awareness and Discovery) provides environmental education in the classroom and extends classroom learning into the outdoors. Some key areas we address are water quality, wildlife, habitat, ecology, watersheds, groundwater, and nature identification. We provide equipment and knowledgeable staff to teach lessons and address groups **free of charge**.



## WHO IS IT FOR?

TOAD is available to all groups and organizations interested in learning about the natural environment. There are learning opportunities for school groups, lake associations, scouts, outdoor clubs, community organizations, and youth groups of all ages.



## PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

We have prepared presentations on selected subjects, but are open to other natural resource or natural science subjects of your choice. Programs are listed on the next page; more detailed descriptions are available online ([www.marinettecounty.com](http://www.marinettecounty.com) – search for “TOAD”). **Most programs can be adapted for audiences in age ranges other than those listed.** If you are interested in a topic not listed, or would like to combine topics, we will design **custom programs** to suit your curriculum or activity goals. Presentation times are flexible to fit your needs, but most pre-K-3 programs will run about 40 minutes. Others are usually 45-60 minutes. Outdoor programs and activities are available if you have an appropriate area near your school or make arrangements to go to a natural area that can support the activity you choose. (Outdoor activities are held at teacher’s discretion in case of weather).

*“In the end we will conserve only what we love. We love only what we understand. We will understand only what we are taught. - Baba Dioum, Senegalese Ecologist*

## EDUCATIONAL EQUIPMENT

Have you ever wanted to address a certain science subject or expand on a lesson with a hands-on activity but didn’t have the right visual aids or teaching tools to do it effectively? We can make arrangements for you to use our equipment for your own lessons and activities. We have water quality testing equipment, a groundwater model, insect nets, binoculars, field guides, and more. A complete list is located inside this brochure, and is kept current on our website.

## CONTACT US

For more information, or to request a program or the use of our equipment, please contact:

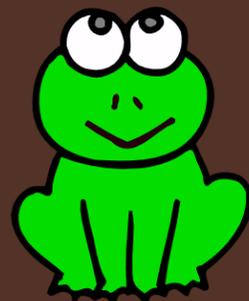
Anne Bartels  
Information & Education Specialist  
1926 Hall Ave., Marinette WI 54143  
(715) 732-7784

[abartels@marinettecounty.com](mailto:abartels@marinettecounty.com)

TOAD programs are very popular (especially during spring & fall) and dates fill quickly. To better serve you, we suggest scheduling programs at least a month in advance. Please call or email at your convenience.

# T.O.A.D.

Environmental  
Education  
Programs



Marinette County  
Land & Water  
Conservation  
Division

# Teaching Outdoor Awareness & Discovery

