



Field Trip to the Stream (Frogs & Toads)

Macey is so excited for school today. Her science class is going to the stream behind the school to finish their frog and toad unit. All month they've been learning about frogs and toads. Today, one of their goals is to be able to tell them apart in their natural habitat.

On the walk to the stream she thinks about everything she learned this month. Macey knows both toads and frogs are amphibians. They're also both omnivorous and feed on worms, insects, tiny fish and other creatures in the stream.

She knows frogs are usually found in or near the water, as they prefer a moist and wet environment. Toads have adapted to both dry and moist environments so they live in the brush on the banks of the creek. She wonders whether she'll see a toad or frog first.

Macey remembers frogs have smooth skin, and long legs which help them jump long distances. Toads hop more often than jump, because they have short, stumpy legs. Frogs are often narrower and have higher, rounder, and more bulging eyes than a toad.

Toads have dry, rough and bumpy skin that emits a bitter taste and smell. This keeps predators from eating it, as it burns their eyes and nostrils. Macey can't wait to get to the stream to start looking!