## **Toad Abode Instructions**

Amphibians, like toads and salamanders, are a very important part of our environment! They have very particular needs when it comes to how clean the water and land is, so if we find amphibians living somewhere it means the area is healthy!

You can help provide a home for these creatures by making a toad abode! These mini shelters offer a place with shade and extra moisture that collects inside, making it a perfect safe space for a toad to hang out.

## **Materials**

Empty planting pot – clay is best, but any material and any size works

Paint and brushes, or stickers

A small gardening shovel or other way to dig a hole

## Instructions:

- **Step 1:** Decorate the outside of the pot however you want. You can make it look like a house, give it polka dots, make it all 1 color. Get creative!
- **Step 2:** Dig a hole in the ground where you would like to place your toad abode. The hole should be big enough for the pot to lay on its side with half (1/2) of it sticking up out of the ground
- **Step 3:** Lay the pot on it's side in the hole as described in Step 2, and fill the inside of the pot back in with the dirt you dug out until the ground is even again. What should be left Is something like a cave that a toad could go into, with dirt filling the bottom half and open space on the top.

Once your toad abode is in the ground, you can watch to see if it has any visitors. Check it at different times of the day and see if there are any patterns to when you see toads using it!