



## Craft Activity

**Theme:** Pond Life

**Intro:** A pond is an area filled with water. They can contain a variety of water plants and wildlife. Ducks, tadpoles, fish, frogs, dragonflies and turtles may be seen at your local pond.

**Craft activity:** Bubble wrap turtle.

**Children will need:** Paper plate, coloured cardboard, paint, sticky tape/glue, textas, sticker/googly eyes and bubble wrap. Turtle template as attached.

### Instructions:

Use the template to trace the turtle's head, legs and tail. Cut out and stick to the inner side of the paper plate, using the tape or glue. Draw the turtle's eyes and mouth or use googly/sticker eyes. Paint the bubble wrap with paint, and press onto the turtle's shell. Your turtle is ready to swim in a pond!

**Extension ideas:** Visit your local pond and catch some tadpoles. Take them home and place into an aquarium. Watch them turn into frogs. Release the frogs back to the pond. Collect some pond water and use a magnifying glass to explore the water. Play "I Spy" at the pond.

**Fact:** Sunlight can reach the bottom of a pond, which allows plants to grow in the middle of the pond. Some ponds dry up in Summer.



**Learning Outcome 2:** Children are connected with and contribute to their world.

## Coordinator extension ideas and group time guide

### Sensory activity:

Frog Sensory Tray

#### You will need:

1 bag of tapioca, green food colouring, tray, toy frogs or frog lifecycle, pebbles, any other items seen in a pond.

#### Instructions:

Mix 1 bag of tapioca with 2 litres of boiling water (this should be prepared the day before Playgroup). Add green food colouring to the water prior to adding this to the tapioca. Stir and let the water soak in. Put into the fridge for the next day.

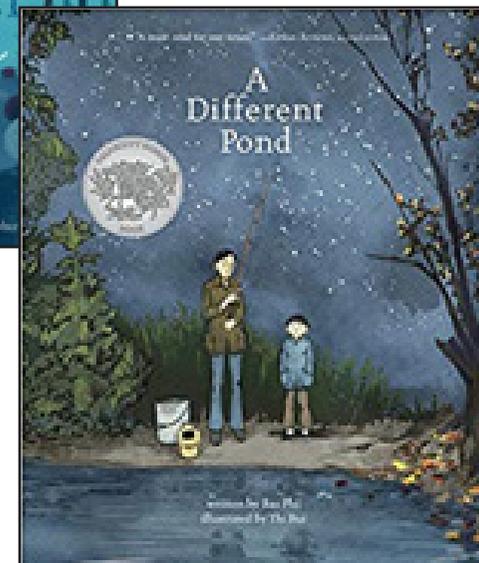
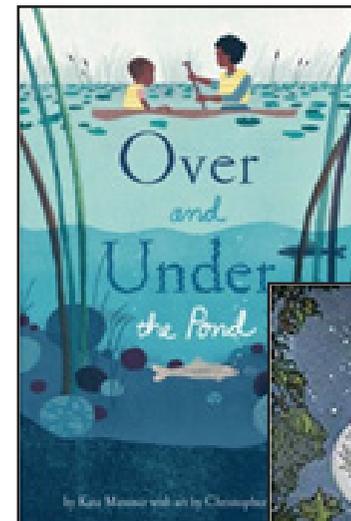
Add soaked tapioca to a tray and add the play items for the pond. The tapioca resembles frog's eggs. For children with sensory concerns, put some tapioca into a ziplock back for the children to explore.

### Group time ideas:

- Sing songs such as 5 Green Speckled Frogs, Galumph, 5 little ducks.
- Children can practice playing leap frogs.
- Play a game of "Follow the leader", using pond animal characteristics. eg waddle like a duck, leap like a frog, quack like a duck, etc.
- Play a game of "Duck, duck, goose"

### Outside activity:

One to One Duck counting – Place a tub or tray of water outside and gather several rubber/plastic ducks, along with a dice. Children can roll the dice, count the number of dots on the side of the dice facing up. Children to place this amount ducks into the water tray. This activity will assist with maths and counting skills.



### Book Suggestions:

Over and Under the Pond by Kate Messner

A Different Pond by Bao Phi

# Playgroup SA Turtle Template

