

**Suggested Pre-Field Trip Activities
for Toes in the Marsh at Wood Lake Nature Center**

Vocabulary

- **Marsh**
- **Ecosystem**
- **Living vs. Nonliving**
- **Habitat**

*Review vocabulary list.

*Have students draw a picture of a living thing and describe the components which make it a living thing.

*Have students draw a picture of a non-living thing and describe the components which make it a non-living thing.

*Draw a class mural as to what they think a marsh may look like. As they create the mural, ask questions as to what sounds and smells may also come from the marsh; use mural for discussion after the field trip.

*Explore the library and look for books that may provide examples of marsh animals and plants. Ask the librarian for help!

*Paint with cattails as brushes.

**Suggested Post-Field Trip Activities
for Toes in the Marsh at Wood Lake Nature Center**

*Review vocabulary list.

*Have students draw a mural as to what the marsh looked like and compare it to the mural they made before the field trip.

*Tape two large sheets of paper in the room and have students draw and write the living things (i.e. turtles, insects, cattails, birds) they saw in the marsh on one sheet and non-living things they saw on the other sheet (i.e. dead logs, wooden boardwalk, rocks, building, bus).

*Hold up pictures of living and non-living components of the marsh ecosystem and have the class describe what makes each either living or non-living.

*Pick one aquatic species that you caught in the marsh (insect, tadpole, fish, etc), and write a poem or story. Include a drawing of what it looks like in its habitat.