Resource created by Watersheds Canada with generous funding from TD Friends of the Environment Foundation and Peterborough K.M. Hunter Charitable Foundation.

ACTIVITY #8: POND STUDY

Your goal is to find as many different creatures as possible and identify them using your identification guides. An added bonus if you find animal tracks in the mud, too!

Materials: dip net, observation containers, identification guides

Some tips for a successful pond or lake study:

- Fill up your containers with water before starting. You are pulling aquatic creatures from the water so make sure they stay in water!
- Make sure to wash your hands before handling any creatures as sunscreen, lotions, and bug spray can be harmful to them.
- Once you are done looking at the creatures, slowly and gently pour them back in the water. Refill your containers with water for your next discoveries!

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What did you find?

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Some things to think about:

- Did you find many creatures? Did you find or see different life stages of the same creature (ex: dragonfly nymph and adult)?
- Is your freshwater body biodiverse? Do you think that means it is healthy?