# Metamorphosis

#### LESSON DESCRIPTION

Raising insects or frogs through their life cycle is an adventurous way to learn about metamorphosis. Our recommendations include options for online engagement if necessary, but focus on how to find real-life examples of life cycles close to home

#### SUGGESTED CURRICULUM LINKS

Growth and Changes in Animals: 2-1-01, 2-1-11, 2-1-14



How do you say "**frog**" in Anishinaabemowin?

## **Omaakakii**

## LESSON

It is very important not to harm any animals or the environment in the process. Take care to ensure that all animals are released if exhibiting any signs of stress, or if you can't provide proper food or care.

### **Frogs**

Collecting wood frog eggs in the spring is a delightful way to demonstrate metamorphosis. In Manitoba, it is legal to collect these eggs for educational use, provided you take only what you need and release any extra tadpoles and the adult frogs back to their original water source. You will need water from the source where the eggs were found, an aerator, and food for the tadpoles (boiled lettuce works well!). Alternatively, you can make multiple visits to a pond where frogs are found and use a small net to check on their growth over time.

Detailed instructions here.

#### **Insects**

Collecting goldenrod or thistle galls and waiting for the fly to emerge is an easy late spring activity. Goldenrod galls are particularly big and easy to find.

Detailed instructions here.

Collecting caterpillars in early summer can offer a peek at a life cycle of a butterfly or moth. Some will pupate and emerge as adults in summer, and some will require a winter period before emerging

Detailed instructions here.

Insects of the pond are fascinating and can be observed each time you visit a local pond for different stages of life cycles. Bring a small aquarium net and plastic container to place catches in. Notice adult insects such as dragonflies near the pond, and their larval life stages living underwater.

FortWhyte Alive Aquatic Critter Key.