

You are a toad biologist and you are looking at your data from the field season. Your favorite toad, 4F21, sure moved around a lot! Can you follow the prompts below to trace her path on the next page?

From the diary of 4F21

Week 1 (Start): Today I was released into my new home with my fancy new belt on, but I need to eat before I explore. I spy a worm...gulp gulp! Yum!

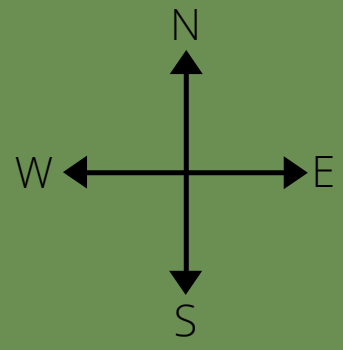
Week 2: I'm still adjusting to my new home, so I move 35 feet to the southwest. I find a nice patch of thatch that I can create tunnels under to move around. My patch of thatch is surrounded by tall cattails. This is a good place to ride out the approaching storm!

Week 3: Now that I'm a little more comfortable in my new home, it is time to explore it! I hop 220 feet to the southeast and even cross a lake! I find another patch of thatch here, and it keeps me cool on this hot and sunny day.

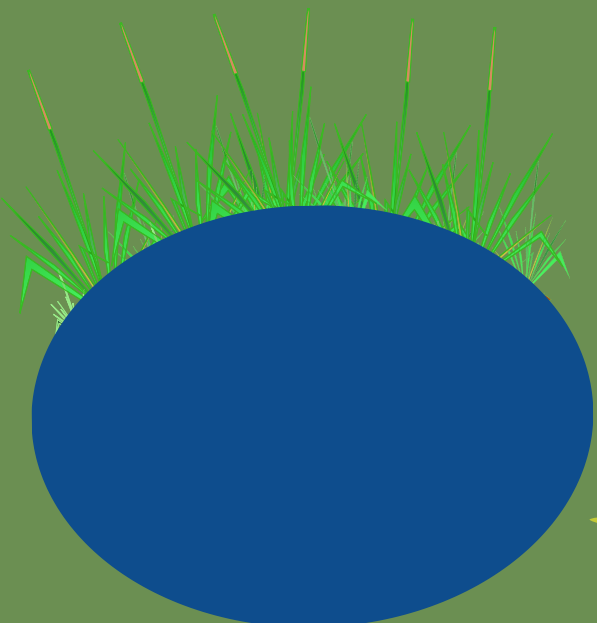
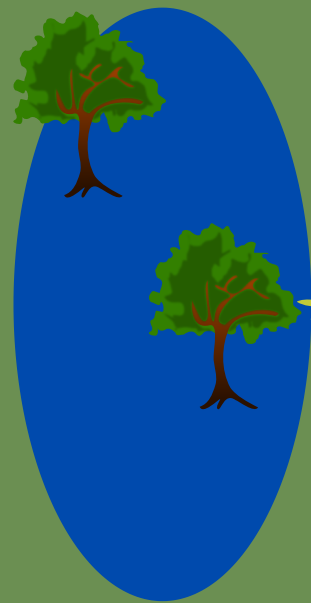
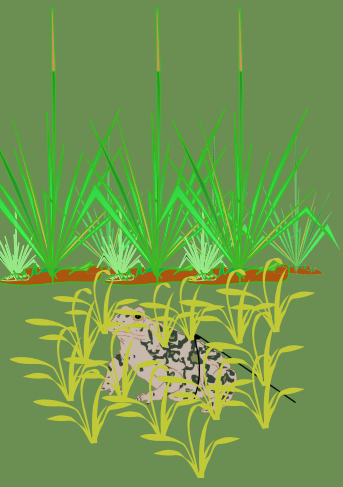
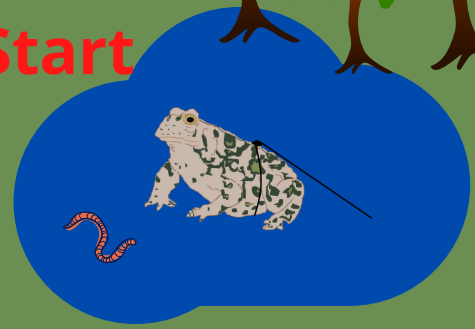
Week 4: It is officially fall, and that means it is time for me to find a safe place to spend the winter. I find a nice hole 220 feet to the south. It's near a lake, and the hole is at least 6 inches deep. This provides me good protection from a lot of predators.

Week 5: The weather is still cool, so I don't feel like moving too much. I enjoy hiding under some thatch that I find next to my hole.

Week 6: As much as I love thatch, it's not the best place to spend my winter. I move 200 feet to the northeast, and find a great burrow that will keep me safe, sheltered, and warm during the long winter months ahead. See you in the spring!



Start



Great work! You are well on your way to becoming an expert toad biologist. 4F21's hibernation location is around 530 feet from the location she was released. Because of the path she took, however, she moved at least 700 feet in 6 weeks. Since she's only 2 inches long, that's the equivalent of you traveling 13 miles!

- ▶ Did 4F21 move more or less than you expected?
- ▶ What did you notice about the locations 4F21 was found in?
- ▶ Was 4F21 easy to find, or was she usually hidden from the researchers?
- ▶ Did anything about her movements surprise you?



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