

# ABOUT THE AMERICAN TOAD

**AMERICAN TOAD**  
**BUFO AMERICANUS:**  
AMPHIBIAN, INSECTIVORE,  
LIFE SPAN UP TO 30 YEARS



THESE TOADS ARE PREDATORS AND THEY EAT A LOT. INSECTS, SPIDERS, EARTHWORMS, SNAILS, AND SLUGS MAKE UP MOST OF THEIR DIET, BUT THEY WILL EAT JUST ABOUT ANYTHING THAT FITS IN THEIR MOUTHS.



AMERICAN TOADS HAVE SPECIAL GLANDS, CALLED PAROTID GLANDS, WHICH PRODUCE A FOUL-SMELLING, TOXIC CHEMICAL. THIS WILL KEEP SOME PREDATORS FROM TRYING TO EAT THEM.



OTHER DEFENSES USED BY AMERICAN TOADS INCLUDE PLAYING DEAD...



...AND PUFFING UP THEIR BODIES TO LOOK BIGGER THAN THEY ACTUALLY ARE.

