Miniature Ponds

Adding some water to your backyard gives wildlife a reason to visit your family. True, installing pond takes some digging and some time, but the frogs will love you for it. (Once you've filled the pond kids should be supervised closely.)

You can create your own pond, of course, but a store-bought kit simplifies the process a lot. We tried out two ponds from The Home Depot, which carries a range of kits from Beckett Water Gardening. A third pond that we tested, Garden Escapes Pond, is sold at Wal-Mart.

Kids' Frog and Goldfish Pond Kit creates a 35-gallon pond. It includes a PVC liner, a water-circulating pump, and a toad house/water spitter. \$60, available at homedepot.com. (Internet # 167753)

Beckett's Small Complete Water Garden Kit creates (up to) a 270-gallon pond. It comes with a flexible PVC liner and pump. \$120, available in-store or at homedepot.com. (Internet # 162032, Store in-stock # 242981)

Garden Escapes 90-Gallon Pond Kit comes with a hard plastic liner. \$80, available in-store at Wal-Mart. ^I

