

Instructions

How to Make a Terrarium

Materials

- Large plastic soda bottles
- Sharp scissors or knife (Students should work only with an adult while cutting the bottle)
- Dirt or potting soil
- Plant seeds or seedlings (Use seedlings from a local area)
- Water
- Permanent black marker

Instructions

1. Remove the label from the bottle. You can throw away the label, but save the cap for later.
2. Wash out the bottle and cap with soap and water.
3. Cut the bottle all the way around near the bottom, leaving 3-4 inches at the bottom.
4. Pour dirt or potting soil in the base- do not push the dirt down.
5. Plant a few seeds or seedlings in the dirt.
6. Lightly water the seeds or seedlings according to the amount of “rain-fall” your terrarium should receive. (Some will receive no water.)
7. Cover the base of the bottle with the top of the bottle. You will have to work with it a little to fit back inside the base of the bottle.
8. Using a permanent black marker, label each terrarium according to group number or the amount of water it should receive.
9. Place the terrarium where it will receive sunshine and watch for the seeds or seedlings grow and change. Note how different each terrarium looks according to the amount of water it received.
10. At the end of your project, you can repot your plants or plant them outside.

