

FLEX YOUR GREEN THUMBS AND CREATE YOUR OWN MINI HERB GARDEN

Now is a great time to get out in your garden and get creative by turning used containers or bottles into a mini herb garden!

Not only will you be giving used items a new life, but you will also be able to enjoy the satisfaction of watching your food grow.

Once your herbs have grown, you will be able to pick these fresh from the garden and add them to your meals – no more boring dinners!

In this activity we show you how to grow herbs, but you could also try growing flowers or vegetables from seeds. If you are growing vegetables from seeds using this design, you will need to transplant the seedling to a bigger pot or garden bed when they are big enough.



HOW TO CREATE YOUR OWN MINI HERB GARDEN

Step 1

Collect all the materials: plastic bottle, pen, scissors, gloves, seeds, soil, trowel, water.



1

Step 2

Using the pen, draw a line approximately halfway through the plastic bottle. Label the bottom section 'A' and the top section 'B'.



2

Step 3

Carefully cut along the line to separate the plastic bottle into separate 'A' and 'B' sections. Pierce one or two small holes in the bottle top lid.

Note: You will need help from an adult with this step.



3

Step 4

Fill section A with water approximately to the halfway mark.



4

Step 5

Turn section B upside down and place in section A. Ensure that the bottle top is submerged in the water in section A. If it's not, just add more water to section A.



Step 6

Fill section B with soil or a potting mix until its 1-2cm from the top.



Step 7

Place the seeds on the soil in section B and then sprinkle the seeds with a small layer of soil and press them down gently. Spray the soil with water, making sure the soil is well soaked.

Note: Try not to let the soil dry out while you are waiting for the seeds to sprout.



Step 8

Place your mini herb garden in a sunny spot and wait for the seeds to grow. Keep an eye on the water level in section A and top it up if needed, as this will help keep the soil moist.

Seedlings will begin to sprout within approximately 10 to 14 days. Check the seed packet for a more accurate germination time.

Now you can sit back, watch it grow and enjoy picking the freshly grown herbs.



Herb garden on the right contains lettuce seeds that have been growing for two weeks

FEELING MORE CREATIVE?

You could also create a hanging herb garden for indoors or outdoors!

Step 1

Draw a rectangular line on one side of the bottle and carefully cut along this line and remove the rectangular 'window'.



Step 2

Fill with soil up to 1-2cm from the opening on the top of the bottle.



Step 3

Place the seeds on the soil and then sprinkle the seeds with a small layer of soil and press them down gently. Spray the soil with water, making sure the soil is well soaked.

Note: Try not to let the soil dry out while you are waiting for the seeds to sprout.



Step 4

Tie string to both ends of the bottle and hang on a hook somewhere in the garden or in an area in the kitchen that receives plenty of natural sunlight.



Watch it grow and enjoy picking the freshly grown herbs.

What next?

Now that you have found your love of gardening, how about you carry on and have a go at creating a native garden oasis in your backyard? For more information on how to create a native garden, download a copy of Council's Native Garden Guide:

www.camden.nsw.gov.au/assets/Uploads/Camden-Native-Garden-Guide.pdf