

Seed Bombs



VIRGINIA
AQUARIUM
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An easy way to brighten up your yard using construction paper and flower seeds.

Duration

Preparation: 5 minutes

Activity: 45 minutes

Supplies

- Various colored construction paper or newspaper
- Water
- Native wildflower seeds
- Food Processor
- Sheet pan for drying

Background

Not only do wildflowers add color and excitement to your yard, but planting **native wildflowers** is a great way to attract **pollinators** such as butterflies, bees, and birds to your community. Pollinators are very important to the environment because they help so many plants grow strong and healthy that animals rely on for food or shelter.

Instructions

1. Cut construction paper (or newspaper) into 1-inch squares and place them in small dishes by color.
2. Fill each dish with water just until the paper is covered. Let it soak for about 20 minutes.
3. Take one bowl of paper and wring out about half of the water.
4. Pulse the paper in a food processor until it becomes a pulp. Repeat this with each color of paper and place the pulp back into the bowls.
5. Sprinkle (native) wildflower seeds into each bowl and slightly stir.
6. Press the pulp and seeds into balls- you may need to add a little sprinkle of water if they are too dry.
7. Set the balls onto a sheet pan to dry overnight.
8. Bury them in a special place in your yard and explore frequently to see if they are growing!

Vocabulary

Native wildflowers: Flowers that were already living in an area before humans brought any new plants from other areas.

Pollinators: Animals that move pollen from flower to flower to help new plants to grow.

Extension

Experiment with different ways to disperse your seed bombs like engineering your own catapult or slingshot. As the seeds begin to sprout, measure their growth with a ruler each day.