



RECREATION AT HOME

DIY Terrariums for Kids

Materials Needed:

- A glass or plastic bowl
- Small rocks or stones
- An assortment of decorations such as rocks, mini toys, plastic dinosaurs, moss, coloured sand, mini garden gnomes or fairies, plastic animals, etc. Let your child pick out whatever they would like in order to give their terrarium an extra special touch.
- Potting soil
- An assortment of small indoor plants (seeds or young sprouts)

Spring is almost here and many people are anxious to get started on their gardens—both inside and outside.

Teaching children the importance of plants in the home is a rewarding experience that will benefit them and foster a life-long love of planting and gardening.

Children can learn how to care for living plants by making their own terrariums, plus they can use their own toys and decorations to give each an extra special touch!

Instructions:

1. Fill the bottom of your glass bowl with small pebbles or rocks or stones —fill it about 2–3 inches high. This allows for proper drainage when you need to add water to feed the plants.
2. Fill the glass bowl with regular potting soil about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way up.
3. Pick an assortment of small indoor plants and plant two to three plants in each terrarium. Leave a small space at the front of the bowl empty so that your child can fill it with special decorations of their choice.
4. Allow your child to fill their terrarium with the special objects that they have chosen.
5. Place your terrarium in a sunny spot indoors and water it only when the soil becomes dry. Try not to over water it or saturate the soil too much with water, or this will rot the roots and your plants will not be able to grow properly.
6. Watch the plants grow with your kids. Change up the decorations occasionally to create a new experience and a new terrarium design. Making a terrarium with your kids is a great way to teach them some responsibility about how to care for living plants. It also gives them the creative freedom to make it just how they want. Have fun!

