

Windowsill Herb Greenhouse

Create mini green houses, plant herbs and watch them grow on your windowsill!

Supplies:

- Colored cups (hint: save plastic cups or yogurt containers from the recycling bin)
- Clear cups (slightly smaller or larger than the colored cups)
- Soil
- Herb seeds (basil, cilantro, parsley, etc.)
- Push pin
- Permanent marker for labeling pots
- Spray or squirt bottle for watering

Directions:

- Do this activity outdoors or lay down newspaper or plastic to catch dirt spills
- Have students use a pin to poke small drainage holes in the bottom of the cup
- Fill cups about $\frac{3}{4}$ full with dirt, press it down then water
- Put 3-5 seeds on the soil and then cover them with about a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch layer of soil
- Mist or lightly water again
- Place the clear cup over the colored cup to form a greenhouse
- Place greenhouse on a tray in the window sill where they will get lots of light
- Seeds take about 7-10 days to germinate (some varieties take longer)
- You can transplant seedlings into a garden by digging holes 3-4 inches apart. Place seedlings in the holes, fill in the dirt and water thoroughly.

Discussion Topics:

- Why is it important to grow your own food?
- What is the life cycle of a plant?
- What is the role of water and light in growing a plant?

