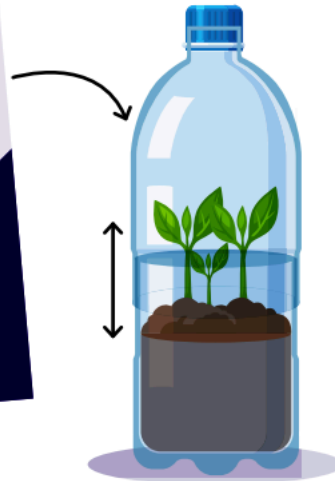


## REUSED BOTTLE GARDEN

Don't throw your used plastic bottles into the bin - make them into bottle gardens instead!

10-15 mins



### Kit list

Empty, used, washed out plastic bottles

Sharp scissors

Compost

Seeds

(of your choice - sunflowers and cress work well!)

Water

### Instructions

- 1 Using a sharp pair of scissors, cut a used plastic bottle in half widthways. Then, make a couple of small holes in the bottom of the bottle (this is for water to drain through.)
- 2 Put some compost in the bottom half of your empty bottle.
- 3 Make several small holes in the compost with your finger and then drop a couple of seeds into each.
- 4 Put one more handful of compost over your seeds, lightly covering them.
- 5 Sprinkle on some water and put your bottle in a sunny position.
- 6 Slide the top of your bottle onto the bottom half and keep watering as your plant grows. You may have to take the top of the bottle off as your plant grows!

### Watch out

Ensure everyone washes their hands after handling soil.

### Next steps

You could create lots of different plants with multiple bottles - and you could even string them up to make a hanging bottle garden!

To find more science activities, visit the VICTA Science Fair:

[www.victa.org.uk/victa-science-fair](http://www.victa.org.uk/victa-science-fair)

### Career options

Horticulture is the science of growing plants. Horticulturalists research different plant species, and often grow plants, fruits and vegetables for study. This role also has a focus on environmental sustainability, with some research focussing on plant conservation and preservation.

### Get younger children involved

For younger children - ask an adult to help cut the bottles!

### Get older children involved

Choose seeds for whichever plant you like. You could even grow things to eat!

