

# Make Your Own Garden

**This activity introduces basic concepts of plant biology, including the need of seeds to grow - water, air, and light - while also fostering responsibility through daily care and observation.**

**Ages: 5 - 14** | **30 minutes - 1 hour**

Creating a garden in a CD case is a simple and engaging way for children to learn about plant growth and responsibility. This hands-on project allows students to plant seeds, observe the sprouting process, and track daily changes, all within a clear and compact environment. Using materials such as wheatgrass seeds, water, and a CD case, students can watch the seeds germinate in just a few days.

## MATERIALS

- CD case
- Soil
- Seeds
- Dropper
- Tape

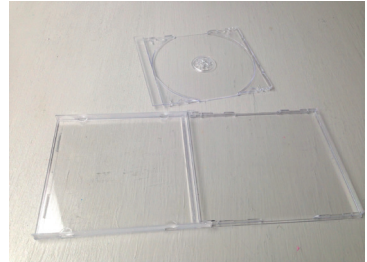
## STEP-BY-STEP TUTORIAL

- 1 Step 1**  
Gather your materials!



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- 2) **Step 2**  
Prepare the CD case by removing the inner plastic insert, which leaves you with just the outer case.



- 3) **Step 3**  
Lay the CD case so it is open and flat. Then, scoop some soil into the top side of the CD case. Gently pat down the soil to cover half of the case, leaving space near the hinge.



- 4) **Step 4**  
Scatter seeds (we used wheatgrass seeds) along the edge of the soil. Gently press the seeds into the soil.



- 5) **Step 5**  
Close the case and seal the edge with tape. Prop the CD case upright. Use the gap near the hinge to water your seeds every day. We found that a little dropper is perfect for watering.



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## LEARN MORE

With careful watering, our seeds sprouted in less than a week. The CD case is great for watching them grow! For an extra fun, add stickers or draw little bugs and friendly critters that can live in your garden.



The project promotes the reuse of everyday materials and encourages mindful consumption. Instead of discarding an old CD case, it is repurposed as a mini greenhouse, demonstrating how items typically considered waste can be given a second life. This reinforces the idea of reducing waste and extending the lifecycle of products, key concepts in a circular economy.

Additionally, growing plants, especially from seeds, teaches children about the natural cycle of growth, food production, and the importance of green spaces. This activity can foster discussions around sustainability by emphasizing resource efficiency, such as the minimal water and space needed to grow wheatgrass. In a broader context, the project encourages thinking about how small-scale actions, like growing your own food, contribute to larger sustainability efforts by reducing dependence on industrialized food systems and promoting local, self-sufficient practices.

## SOURCE

<https://www.kiwico.com/diy/nature-adventure/hands-on-learning/make-your-own-garden>

KiwiCo was founded to nurture children's creativity and problem-solving skills through hands-on projects, making it easier for parents to provide enriching activities. The company simplifies the process of building, exploring, and creating together by designing fun and educational experiences that foster creative confidence. With a growing team of designers, experts, and kid testers, KiwiCo aims to equip children with the skills they need to face future challenges. Founder and CEO Sandra, an engineer and mother of three, created KiwiCo to inspire curiosity and exploration in families.