



Exploring 4-H at Home



Science and
Technology

Pillar: Science & Technology

Activity: Seed Balls Craft

Seed Balls

Plants use seeds to grow in new places. Some are light and carried by the wind. Others are sticky or have tiny hooks to stick onto animals' fur (have you ever gotten burs stuck on you?). Some are surrounded by yummy berries which are then eaten and spread by animals. In this activity, we'll explore another way of spreading seeds in a fun (but messy!) craft: **seed balls!**

Materials

- Potter's Clay (not air dry, but the kind used to make pots). You can also substitute this with small strips of newspaper.
- Potting Soil
- Wildflower seed
- Mixing bowls
- A sunny location

Instructions

1. Mix the clay with the potting soil in a 3:1 ratio. You will need to break up the clay into smaller pieces to mix it well. If using paper instead, use more soil.
2. Taking a handful of the mixture, roll it into a firm ball, about the size of a marble.
3. Next, press the seeds into the ball, spreading them throughout. You may have to flatten and then reform the ball several times.
4. Place your seed balls in a dry, hot area, preferably in the sun.
5. After a few hours, plant your seed balls. It could be in a pot, your yard or another place you have permission to plant.

Was the activity gross or fun? Or both? Do you think the seed balls will sprout? Why or why not? If you were a plant, how would you spread your seeds? Where would you hope they landed?



Don't forget to post a picture of your seed balls on the 4-H Saskatchewan Exploring 4-H At Home Page and use **#exploring4hathome**