

Gardening Activities for Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

Here is a great Scouting activity that you can do whilst earning a badge during social distancing.

The activity is for

- Beavers & Cubs: Gardener Activity Badge
- Scouts: Farmer Activity Badge

All three are very similar and have been adapted to suit conditions. Remember to always follow government guidance on social conditioning.

There are many videos you can watch on YouTube and some are included. If you have a family member or friend who is a Gardner perhaps reach out a FaceTime them to get their top tips.

You will need some small containers, no bigger than bucket size, why not recycle something, or a window box

Some small hand tools but almost anything will do, a dibber could be a old pencil or a twig

Some small stones are needed for drainage in the bottom of the pots where there are drainage holes

Some soil. This can be from the ground but will need to be sieved to break it up or better still some bagged compose [maybe your neighbor has some to spare]

Lastly some seeds and these are cheap and can be purchased on line from a number of merchants

For example

www.dtbrownseeds.co.uk

Some Tips:

Sow seeds thinly so they have room to grow

Dont over water, just keep the soil damp

Space out the seeds as instructions on the packet

When the seeds germinate thin out the seedlings

To keep things simple and will grow quickly meaning you should to able to eat them in June or July the following are suggested:

Spring Onions

Lettuce

Carrots

Dwarf Beans

Garlic (take a clove of a bulb)

Beavers

Learn about 2 trees or 2 shrubs, take a photo when they have buds, when in full leaf and when the leaves die back. What sort of tree or shrub is it?

Take a leaf or a small flower [can be from any plant] and lay between some newspaper and weigh down with some books in a dry place for a couple of months and make a birthday card with it but be sure to identify the leaf or flower

Learn about gardening tools, draw a picture of 3 tools and describe their uses?

Prepare your pots with drainage holes, place stones in the bottom and fill with soil or compost

Pick 3 packets of seeds from above and plant as the instructions on the packet
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YAL6H5SgNAs>

Don't use up all the seeds at once

Place pots in sunny spot and water

Wear gloves when working with the soil and wash hands after the activity

Watch the plants grow and when ready pick, wash and eat!

Cubs

Find out about parts of a plant <https://www.dkfindout.com/us/animals-and-nature/plants/parts-plant/> and do the quiz

Identify 3 mature trees and draw a picture of their leaves.

Design 3 plant labels for your plant pots.

Name 3 mini beasts in the soil that could damage your plants.

Pick 3 packets of seeds from above and plant as instructions on packet
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YAL6H5SgNAs>

Don't use up all the seeds as once

Place pots in sunny spot and water

Wear gloves when working with the soil and wash hands after the activity

Watch the plants grow and when ready pick, wash and eat!

Keep a diary and note when you planted, when shoots appear and when you eat, also take a photo of your crop and the grower!

For Scouts

Find out about parts of a plant <https://www.dkfindout.com/us/animals-and-nature/plants/parts-plant/> and do the quiz

Identify the following trees Elm, Oak and Ash and list their properties <https://www.thestoveyard.com/what-wood-to-burn>

Describe a herbaceous plant?

What is a Deciduous tree?

What is a Coniferous tree?

Name 3 Herbs.

Name 3 plant diseases.

Pick 4 packets of seeds [or more] from the above and plant as instructions on packet <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YAL6H5SgNAs>

Don't use up all the seeds at once

Place pots in a sunny place and water

Wear gloves when working with soil and wash hands after the activity

Watch plants grow and when ready pick , wash and eat!

Keep a diary and take photos

Good luck all

Guy Thompson
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