

Earth in a jar

This is a great way to show children how an ecosystem works. How the soil depends on the water and how the plants grow with sunlight and other concepts like the photosynthesis

You need

- a jar
- leca
- potting soil
- soil from an outdoor flowerbed
- small plants
- rocks
- water spray bottle
- extras: Pebbles, pine cones, sticks etc.
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- Place a layer of leca in the bottom of the jar
- Mix the potting soil with a little soil from a outdoor flowerbed
- Fill the jar (one third of the height of the jar) with mixed soil
- Plant small house plants like ivy, peace lily or spider plant in the soil
- Decorate with sticks small pebbles etc.
- Lightly mist the plants with a spray bottle.
- Replace the jar's lid and set the jar in a bright place away from direct sunlight.
- Check it every few weeks and add more water by lightly spraying the plants with the spray bottle if the soil feels dry
- If heavy condensation forms inside the glass, temporarily lift the cover to let some of the moisture escape