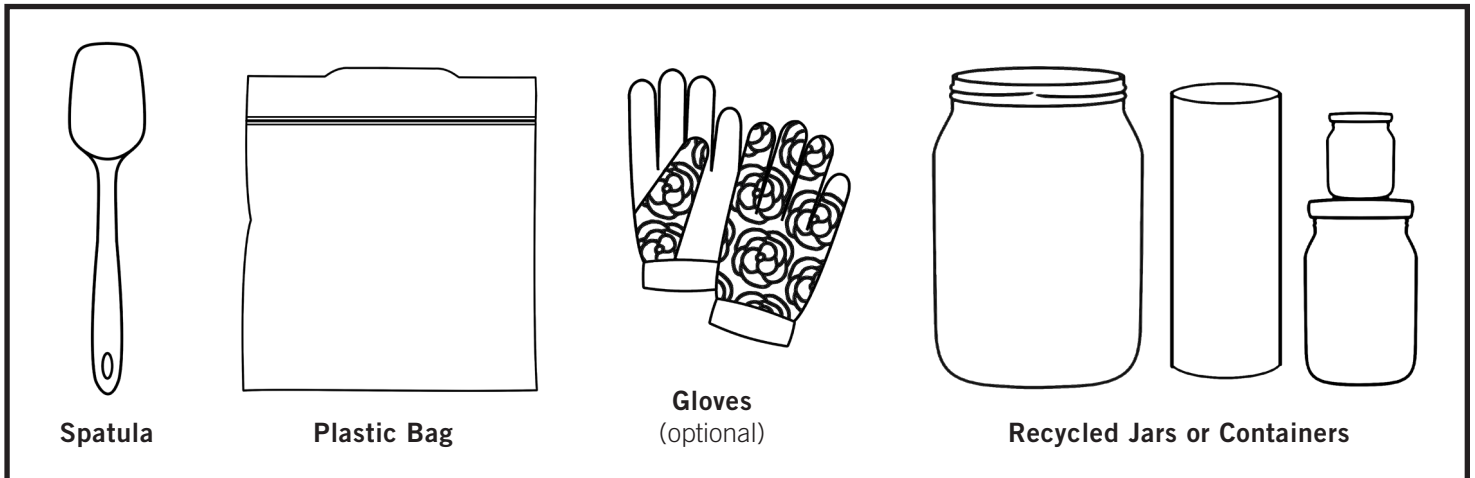


Build Your Own Terrarium

Part 1: Scavenging For Materials



Step 1

Start by scavenging your neighborhood for natural materials. Collect pebbles, small stones, bark, and twigs. Look for moss on tree trunks, in sidewalk cracks, edges of parking lots, telephone poles, and statuary.

Use a spatula or your hands to scoop the moss then place it in a plastic bag. Only take moss that is not cherished, if it looks like it has a purpose leave it.

Step 2

Now that you have collected your materials, you will need to clean them. Soak moss in cold water overnight or for at least 30 minutes. Wash and dry pebbles and stones.

Use these simple mindfulness exercises to clear your mind and enjoy your neighborhood while scavenging.

Step 3

While your moss soaks, scavenge your home for additional materials. Start by locating a transparent vessel for your terrarium. Vessel options are endless - you can use a recycled food container, jar, bottle, or vase. Collect small objects to decorate your terrarium.

Remember mosses are sponges – make sure to wash your hands after handling!

Are there plants you recognize?

What seasonal changes do you notice?

Close your eyes, what colors can you see?

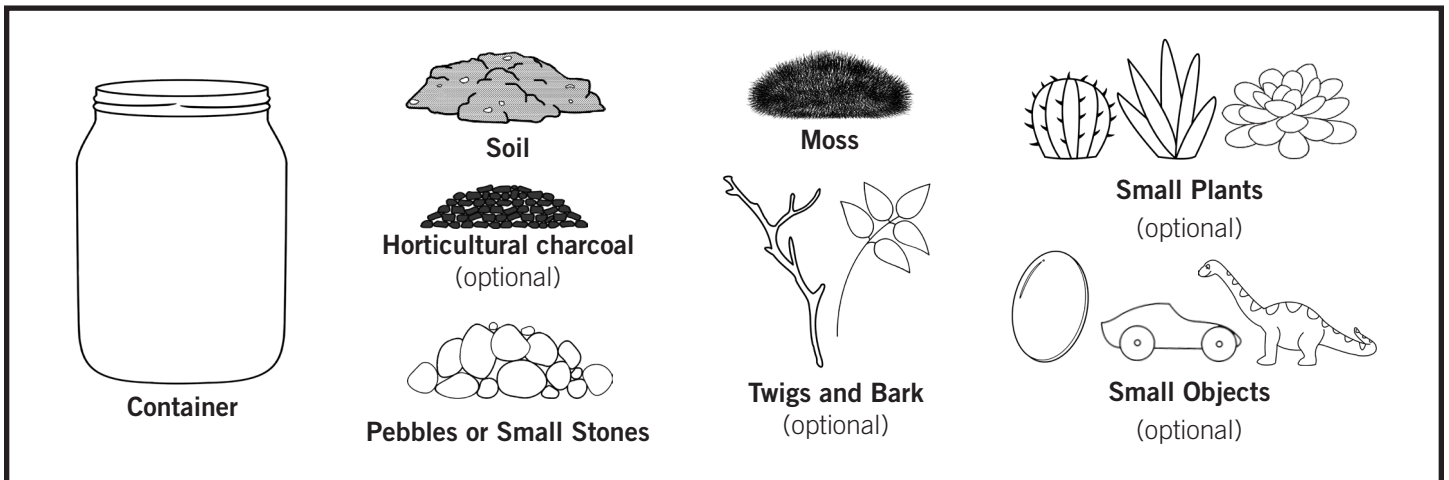
Listen for sounds, what do you hear?

Is there something you look at and think “what is the story behind that”?

How many different shades of green can you find?

Build Your Own Terrarium

Part 2: Designing Your Terrarium



Step 4

Now that you have all your materials, it is time to start layering. Start by covering the bottom of your container with a layer of pebbles or small stones. Next add a thin layer of horticultural charcoal (optional). Finish by adding a tightly packed layer of soil. When you are done with your layers, the materials should be about 1/3 the height of your container.

Step 5

Now that you have finished your layers, it is time to design your mini landscape. Slowly add small pieces of moss until the surface is covered. Use pebbles and stones to fill in the empty spaces. Create whimsy by adding small objects or keep it simple by adding a small plant – or do both!

Step 6

Once your terrarium is complete care for it by giving it lots of light and water. Display your terrarium in an area that receives bright, indirect light. Keep your terrarium moist using a spray bottle, kitchen hose, or leave it in the rain.

