Helping your children choose books they will love

I reading

Lovereading4kids.co.uk is a book website created for parents and children to make choosing books easy and fun

Opening extract from

Maggie and Rose: This Book Totally Makes Stuff Grow !

Written by

Maggie Bolger

Published by

Walker Books Ltd

All Text is Copyright © of the Author and/or Illustrator

Please print off and read at your leisure.

Lovereading4kids.co.uk

Muddy Experiments

Soil takes thousands of years to make and is absolutely full of living things. Not big things but tiny little creatures that can only be seen with a microscope. In one spoonful of soil there could be nearly 7,000 of these tiny things. Join the gang with their experiment to see how many living things they can find.

STUFF TO USE

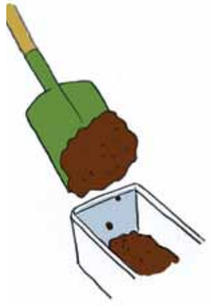
- Spoon
- Freshly dug soil
- Sieve
- Spade
- Magnifying glass
- 2 x plastic containers
- Paper
- Pen

1. Using a spade, dig up some soil. The deeper you go, the more likely it is that you'll find creatures in it.

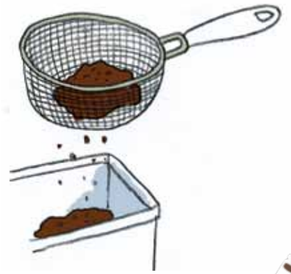




2. Place a spade full of soil in one of your containers.



3. Take a spoonful of dirt and shake it through the sieve over your other container.



4. Look at your soil through the magnifying glass. See how many creatures you can find.



5. Is there a creature left in the sieve? If there is, write down its name, or draw a picture of it to keep a record. If you don't know what it is, try to find out.

beetle

6. Don't forget to put the creatures back in the soil when you've finished.





Potty Potatoes

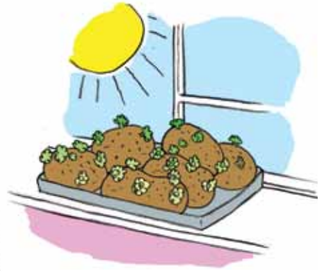
Bentley loves to dig and his favourite thing to dig for is potatoes. Maggie is planting some potatoes so Bentley will have something to dig for in the summer. These potatoes won't be in a big field, they'll be in a pot so Maggie calls them Potty Potatoes.

STUFF TO USE

- A few old potatoes that have started to sprout shoots
- Soil
- Water
- Big plastic bucket / container
- Stones or gravel



1. Put your old potatoes in the sun for about two weeks to harden.



2. Take your bucket or container and ask a grown-up to make some drainage holes in the bottom of it for you.



3. Fill the bottom with a layer of stones and gravel – this is to help with drainage.



4. Add a small layer of soil – about 20 centimetres deep.



5. Place three of your potatoes in the bucket. Make sure they have enough room between them to grow and that the sprouts are facing up.



6. Now add some more soil, just enough to cover the potatoes fully.



7. Find a good spot for your potatoes that is warm but not too sunny. Keep checking them to see if any shoots appear. When they do, cover them with more soil. Do this until your container is full.



8. Make sure you water your plants and keep them well covered from the sun. Potatoes can go green in the sun and then they are poisonous!



9. When your plants start to flower it means your potatoes are ready – yay!



Now gently dig them up and wash all the dirt off them.

