

REAPS READER

Have you helped the environment today?

Home Made Rain Stick

A fun little eco friendly activity to try out at home! Using a paper towel roll, tape, beans, tinfoil, wire and whatever you would like to use for decorations you can make your very own rain stick!

Step1: use wire from an old clothing hanger and bend it into a spiral that will fit in the roll (use tinfoil layers as a substitute if needed)

Step2: place it in the roll and then cover the bottom using some layers of tinfoil and tape, not too much but enough to hold the beans well.

Step3: fill the roll with about two handfuls of beans and then seal the top just like you did with the bottom

Step4: decorate with whatever you would like and enjoy your new home made rain stick!



Gardening **helps children become environmental stewards.**

When children start reaping the food and flowers that come from a garden, they realize a garden's impact on them and their impact on the garden. Once they have this tangible experience, it is much easier to teach them to care for the environment.

Gardening can heighten all senses in children. They can feel the dirt, flowers, fruit, leaves and seeds, see the vibrant colours and sizes of plants, hear the sound of leaves rustling and fruit/vegetables being picked and smell the flowers, fruits and herbs fresh. Best of all, they can taste the outcome of their hard work! By engaging all five senses, gardening can help children to better understand the process of gardening and where their food comes from.

Undertaking a gardening project can teach responsibility to children, as they learn that it is their job to take care of their seeds and plants each day in order for them to be healthy. By creating a checklist for children to run through each day, they can get a better understanding of the role they play in taking care of plants.

Gardening requires children to practice and hone in on their fine motor skills. Planting seeds, scooping dirt and watering plants all help to improve motor skills, which can in turn help to improve their concentration and learning capabilities.



Dates To Remember

May-03 World Press Freedom Day

May-15 International Day of Families

May-17 World Telecommunication Day

May-21 World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development

May-22 International Day for Biological Diversity