

# Toy Garden

Children will love designing and creating a miniature garden for their toys. They could make a fairy garden and populate it with toy flower fairies, a dinosaur garden, or even a superhero garden and add superhero toys amongst the plants. This would make a good indoor activity for a rainy day. This project could last for two weeks, with children designing their gardens in one session and creating it in another.



## What you need

- Small, shallow containers
- Compost
- Small plants
- Natural materials
- Craft materials
- Small toys
- Paper
- Colouring pens and pencils

## What to do

1. Show children a selection of photos of miniature gardens on the internet.
2. Children use colouring pens and pencils to design their own miniature gardens for their toys.
3. Once their designs are complete, children fill their containers with compost.
4. Children select several small plants to go into their container.
5. Provide children with a range of natural and craft materials to add to their gardens. Children can use these to make structures such as buildings or bridges.
6. Children display their toys in their miniature gardens.

## Ways to extend this activity

Ask children to write a short story involving the toy characters, and act it out in their miniature gardens. Children could make miniature gardens in a range of themes, such as Japanese themed gardens or tropical gardens.

## National Curriculum Links

Describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature. Explore the requirements of plants for growth. Generate, develop, model and communicate their ideas through discussion and annotated sketches. Select from and use a wider range of materials and components, including construction materials, textiles and ingredients, according to their functional properties and aesthetic qualities.

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