

Science activate: Bee Nice!

How to Make Seed Balls and Help Spread Pollinator Habitat

In honor of the 50th anniversary of Earth Day on April 22nd, let's create pollinator habitats with this fun activity.

The insects, birds, and bats that pollinate the world's plants are crucial to the health of Earth's various ecosystems. Without them, much of the farmed and wild flora that humans and other animals depend on for food, air, and shelter would die off. The good news is you can help by creating more of the habitat they need to survive! All you have to do is plant more of the wildflowers and other native plants that pollinators love to pollinate. One of the easiest and most fun ways to do this is by making and distributing seed balls—little balls of clay, soil, and seeds that can be tossed anywhere flowers are likely to grow.



WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- Powdered clay
- Top soil
- Wildflower seeds - native to your area
- Water
- A work surface that can get a little dirty

1 Mixing

Mix 5 parts clay with 1 part soil, 1 part seed, and enough water to make it stick

2 Forming

Form mixture into balls and leave them in the sun to dry

3 Planting

Throw seed balls in your backyard or in a tree pit

Infographic adapted from "The ultimate guide to guerrilla gardening."

Seeds (quantity depends on variety)

Optional: chili powder to deter slugs and snails eating the young shoots

Clay to protect the seeds from predators

Soil mixed with the clay for nutrition

Many of these important species, collectively known as **pollinators**, are under threat, in large part due to habitat loss. Let's help EARTH together!

Special thanks to:  student conservation association