

EASTER BUNNY GRASS PLANTER

OBJECTIVE(S):

1. **Educational**

Each participant will be provided information about various grasses, their germination times, and their light/temperature requirements. Participants and master gardeners will discuss their experiences of effects of having rabbits in gardens and yards.

2. **Activity**

Participants will then select a grass seed and plant it in a pot that they are given the opportunity to decorate.

3. **Take Away**

Participants will take a pot planted with grass seed to their rooms.

MATERIALS:

(Plan for 8-10 patients. Eight is supposed to be the maximum, but sometimes we get 10.)

_____ Pens

_____ Markers

_____ Dishpans for dirt (available in BRI supply cabinet)

_____ Watering cans (2 available in BRI supply cabinet) or individual water bottles for patients to use

_____ Name tags for patients (check BRI supply cabinet)

_____ Example of completed project you're doing

_____ An extra set of the patient project materials listed below in order for you to demonstrate the project

_____ TWO completed presentation forms (1 to BRI and 1 mailed to Ext. office)

_____ Your clean receipts for materials purchased (give to BRI therapists)

SPECIFIC ITEMS NEEDED for this project

- Craft foam: light pink and dark pink for bunny ears
dark purple, light purple, or yellow, etc. for bow ties
- Pots painted pink
- Variety of fast growing grass seeds
- Potting mix
- Water
- Glue (Gorilla Clear or Grip Gorilla Craft glue good for patient use)

NOTE: Glue options for patients:

1) Pass bottles of glue around, or

2) Squirrt glue into small plastic containers or small squares of paper/wax paper.

Let patients use Q-tips to glue.

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SPECIFIC ITEMS NEEDED for this project: *(Continued)*

- Craft google eyes
- Small pink pompoms for rabbit nose
- Scissors
- Pre-loaded paint in a pen/ black marker
- Plastic wrap squares to put on top of pots to create a greenhouse effect, if desired
- Rubber bands to secure plastic wrap squares (if using)

POWERPOINT OR PREZI OF PRESENTATION AVAILABLE? NO

HANDOUT: *“Bunny Cookie Pot”*

BEFORE CLASS (No time during class.)

- Cut pairs of ears from craft foam in light and dark pink: Glue the light pink ears onto the dark pink ears and let dry. (No time during class for this to dry.)
- Paint pots pink.
- Cut bow-ties from scraps of craft foam in dark purple, light purple, yellow, etc.
- If using plastic wrap squares, cut enough squares of plastic wrap for the pots.

DURING CLASS

When doing the introductions, have both the master gardeners and the participants discuss their experiences of having rabbits in their yards or gardens, and any positive or negative effects.

Project:

1. Select a pink colored pot, pair of ears, and a bow-tie.
2. Glue the ears onto the back of the inside of the pot
3. Glue the bow-tie to the lower front of the outside of the pot.
4. Glue eyes to pot.
5. Draw/paint the nose/mouth and whiskers onto the pot.
6. Glue the pink pompom to the center of the whiskers.
7. Fill pot with potting mix.
8. Sprinkle the grass seeds on top of the potting mix.
9. Water gently in order to not wash the seeds away.
10. Place plastic wrap squares over top of container, and secure with a rubber band.
11. Place in sunny location-like a window ledge.
12. Wait and watch the bunny grow a fuzzy top.

MAINTENANCE

- Take plastic wrap off container (if using) when seeds germinate.
- Water when ground feels dry.

INFORMATION/DESCRIPTION/FACTS:

There are many different types of grasses available for your home lawn that have strengths and weaknesses. However, when choosing the best lawn variety, first select grasses that will thrive in your local environment and specific site conditions (sun, shade, etc.) From these choices, pick one that will best suit the needs of your whole family, including children, adults and pets. The most important factor to consider in selecting a lawn grass is its ability to survive the intended use of the yard. The first consideration is sunlight. Is there adequate sunlight in the garden space to support shade-intolerant varieties? The second big consideration is whether the local climate favors cool-season or warm-season turf varieties. You'll also have to consider whether you want to plant seed or purchase sod. There are two major categories of grass; warm season and cool season. Depending upon where you live inside Arkansas you might be able to grow one type or the other, or even both! Arkansas is considered a transition area as it can support different types depending upon the location.

Depending upon the specific variety, Grass grows at different speeds. Numerous factors affect the speed of your grass growing-sunlight, water, nutrients and the degree the ground is packed. However, most grass seed germinated in about 7-10 days (as little as 3 or 4 days if using plastic wrap). Zoysia seed only needs 1/8 to 1/4 inch soil coverage as light is required to hit the seed to cause germination! The seeds must have light to germinate properly and only shallow planting will allow this to occur.

SOURCES:

Cookiecollection.com. (n.d.) Easter Bunny Planter. *Great American Home Baking: Cookie Collection*.