

You Can Do It!

Ready, Set, Grow!

SPECIAL CUB SCOUT FEATURE

Make your own greenhouse from an empty soft-drink bottle.

You don't have to wait for the right season to plant your flower and vegetable seeds. Grow plants

indoors any time of year with this easy project.

1 Remove the label from the bottle. If the label doesn't come off easily, fill the bottle with warm tap water until the water rises above the label. Let stand for 10 or 15 minutes. The label should peel off easily.

2 Measure four inches down from the plastic bottle cap. Draw a line and cut off the bottle top at this point. Place a thin layer of small rocks or gravel in the bottom of the bottle for drainage. Fill halfway with potting soil. Following the instructions on the seed package, plant the seeds. Water just a sprinkle—too much and you'll drown your plants.

3 With a push-pin, make several holes in the top of

the bottle cap. (It's easier than it sounds.) Screw cap onto cut-off top of bottle. This is now the lid of your greenhouse bottle. Carefully place on top of the bottle, securing it with a small piece of tape on one side.

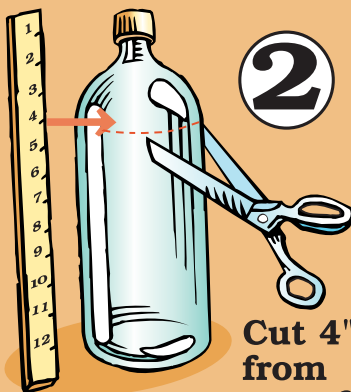
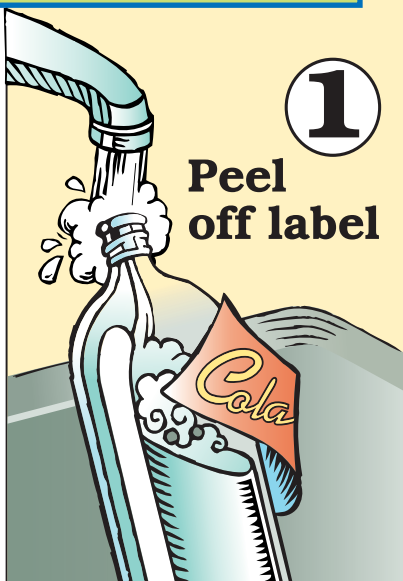
4 Set the bottle in a sunny place and wait for your seeds to sprout. When they get about an inch high, remove the bottle top and let the plants grow until you are ready to transplant outdoors or into another pot.

Note: Single-serving-size plastic bottles work equally well, only you can't get as many plants in them. For these smaller greenhouses, measure down 3½ inches from the top instead of 4 inches.✦

—Donna Collinsworth

YOU'LL NEED

- a two-liter plastic bottle
- scissors
- push-pin
- rocks or gravel
- potting soil
- seeds of your choice
- small amount of tape
- adult supervision



Punch holes



Five should do it!

