



Seed Planting Kit Instructions

Thank you so much for participating in Spring Planting with your students! Here you will find all the information you need to make paper pots and to plant and care for your seeds.

The pot making and seed planting can be done at the same time, and are designed to be able to flow in stations. The first station can be the paper cutting station, followed by the pot-making station, then a soil station, and a planting and watering station. Once students have cycled through all of the stations, they can place their paper pots on the plant tray provided.

If you would like to label the pots with student names or other information, we recommend using a piece of masking tape that you stick onto the tray in front of each pot.

If you have any questions please feel free to email Sara Briggs at sbirggs@imagoearth.org. Also, please visit [Imago's Seed Starting Resources](#) to access Imago's seed-growing activities, as well as our pot-making video.

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Paper Pot Instructions

Step 1:

Cut a strip of newspaper that is about 3.5 inches wide and 12 inches long.



Step 2:

Roll the newspaper strip around the pot maker, leaving about one inch of newspaper hanging over the bottom.

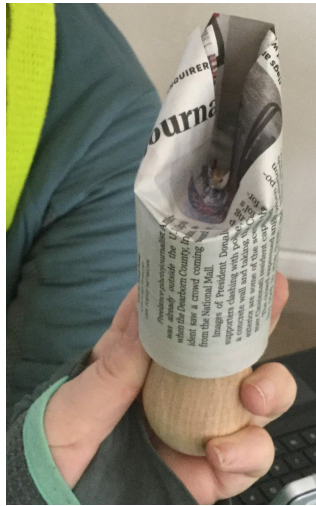




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Step 3:

Fold all of the overhanging newspaper onto the bottom of the pot maker



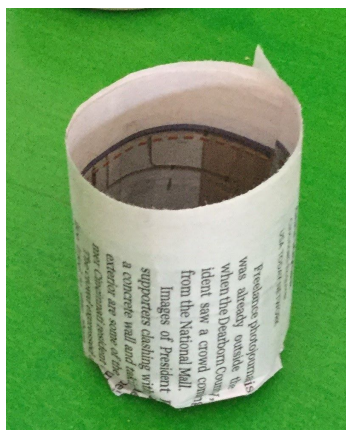
Step 4:

Place the pot maker with the rolled newspaper onto the base and twist it about 5 times



Step 5:

Slide the paper pot off the pot maker. Your pot is now ready for planting!





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Planting Instructions

Step 1:

Fill the paper pot about 2/3rds of the way full with soil.

Step 2:

If you are planting **Kale:**

- Put a small pinch of kale seeds on top of the soil in the pot



If you are planting **Swiss Chard:**

- Put **2 seeds** on top of the soil in the pot



Step 3:

Sprinkle a thin layer of soil over the top of the seeds

Step 4:

Place the pot on the seed tray and use the spray bottle to moisten the soil with 4-5 spritzes of water. For best results, hold the spray bottle about an arm's length away from the pot.

Step 5:

Once all of the pots have been planted, place the seed tray on or near a window sill that receives consistent sunlight throughout the day.



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Taking Care of your Sprouts

Watering

- ❑ Give your plants a drink with 4-5 spritzes from the water bottle. Just enough to get the soil wet, don't drown your sprouts. (2-3 times a week).
- ❑ Fill the bottom of the plant tray with water for the plants to soak up on weekends, or extended breaks

Thinning

If a pot is really crowded (more than two sprouts) your plants will not have enough room to grow. You have to give the plants some room by "thinning". Take a pair of scissors and cut the smallest sprouts leaving only the two tallest.

Rotating

Every week, rotate the plant tray so that the other side is closer to the window.

After your plants sprout, the ones furthest away from the window will try and stretch to get sunlight and sometimes they stretch too far and their stems get weak - that's called getting "leggy". By rotating the tray you are helping to make sure that each sprout gets an equal amount of sun.