Making Seed Bombs

From the United States Department of Agriculture: In the United States, there are over 4,000 species of native bees. Familiar bees visiting garden flowers are the colorful, fuzzy, yellow-and-black striped bumblebees, metallic-green sweat bees, squash bees and imported honeybees. These flower-seeking pollen magnets purposefully visit flowers to collect pollen and nectar for food for themselves and their young.

Create a seed bomb so that you can grow flowers in your backyard that will attract these perfect pollinators.

Know before you begin

• This activity can be done inside or outside
• All supplies are easy to find, substitute or leave out entirely
• Adult supervision is recommended
• Please choose a safe space to play

Materials

• Soil
• Clay
• Local seeds

Instructions

1. Mix one part soil with one part clay (ping-pong-ball-sized amount of each)
2. Form the mixture into a sphere. Don’t be afraid to get your hands messy!
3. Use your finger to make an indentation in the center of the ball.
4. Take a small pinch of seeds (15–20 seeds) and put it into the center of the ball.
5. Close the hole in the ball so it is a sphere again.
6. Throw the seed bomb in your yard and plant a pollinator-friendly garden! The seed ball will naturally decompose and release the seeds.