SCIENCE CAMP from home

ACADEMY

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 (pingpong-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.



The Academy of Natural Sciences & DREXEL UNIVERSITY

1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-299-1182 **ANSP.ORG**