

Goolmangar Indigenous Garden Plants

Grass Tree

Pigface - sweet and salty fruit

Native Onion - edible bulbs

Blue flax -berries are bright and blue

Native Hibiscus - bright red flowers, edible flowers and bulbs

Native Ginger - edible leaves, berries, bulb

Ginger Grass - can burn it to make it grow back

Native Mint - tastes similar to chocolate mint

Tall Elderberries - yellow berries

Davidson Plums - tart tasting fruit

Lemon Myrtle - has more lemon flavour than any other lemon tasting plant

Native Chocolate Pudding Plant - tastes like Sapote

Lemon Aspen - white fruit like lemon/eucalyptus berries

Endangered Lillipilli - large fruit

Bolwarra - little fruit tastes like a lifesaver lolly

Forest Maple - purple edible fruit, tastes like camphor

Native celery/ Sea Celery - edible

Yarning Circles are about

empowerment

integrity

engagement

histories

compassion

values

inclusion

accountability

community

commitment

knowledge

identity

safety

language

respect

sharing

Make a terrarium – Water Cycle in a bottle

What to do

- Cut the top third of the soft drink bottle off.
- Add pebbles in the bottom of the terrarium to cover the bottom. This allows for drainage.
- Add a layer of roughly crushed charcoal. This keeps the soil mix sweet (taking out any nasty substances) and helps with drainage if we over water and also helps with aeration in the soil.
- Add a layer of soil. The soil provides nutrients and support for the plant.
- A small amount of sand is mixed through the soil. This allows for drainage.
- A small piece of moss is laid on top or a fern is planted. A smaller plant suffers less shock on transfer and there will be more room for it to grow.
- The best plants to use in terrariums are mosses and ferns as they are the most tolerant plants to high humidity.
- Moisten with the spray bottle of water. The aim is to get the soil evenly moist, not over-damp or muddy.
- Place the other half of the bottle with its lid on, either upside down on top, or taped into position upright.
- The idea is to establish a completely closed atmosphere which is virtually self sufficient for as long as possible. The moisture passed off the plant condenses on the sides and trickles down to the soil to be absorbed by the roots again. If the container is airtight the moisture will not have to be replaced for quite a while. The plastic container and lid are not completely airtight and in hot weather it is necessary to keep a check that it doesn't dry out.
- Keep the container in a place with natural light but not direct sunlight.
- Fertiliser is not necessary, as enough nutrients will be found in the soil.

A terrarium is a miniature water cycle.

The idea of terrariums started in Britain in the 19th century when botanists tried to find ways of sending plants home to England from their travels all over the world. Initially there were no planes so plants had to be transported by boat taking a long time.

About 1829 Dr. Nathaniel Bagshaw Ward designed glass transport cases which became known as Wardian Cases. Rare plants were then carried long distances as the sealed container had all they needed to survive, and protected them from the harsh conditions on board ship.

What you need

A soft drink bottle with lid
Teaspoon
Pebbles
Charcoal
Soil
Sand
Water spray bottle
Moss or fern

Making a Mesocosm

Research question: With the plants and materials I have chosen, is it possible for me to create a sustainable terrestrial ecosystem within a sealed glass jar?

Aim: to create a self-sustaining terrestrial mesocosm

Variables:

Independent - materials/plants/size of jar, location

Dependent - temperature, humidity, condensation, growth of moss

Method:

1. Add a thin layer of pebbles to the bottom of the jar.
2. Add a thin layer of soil on top of the pebbles.
3. Add plants of choice, then cover with more soil, ensuring the roots are secure in the soil.
4. Nestle moss into the top layer of the soil.
5. Pour in water - enough to make bottom layer of pebbles slightly wet.
6. Seal jar with lid and place in sunny spot. (*Note: Mesocosm shouldn't be placed in direct sunlight as this will burn the plants and restrict their growth. Instead place in a location with indirect sunlight.*)



Save Water



it's very



precious!



World