

## About Seed Stones

Place a Seed Stone in soil and watch as it transforms a once grey and unloved patch of land into something beautiful and unique. Reclaim a small piece of the planet by tossing Seed Stones into an empty or neglected lot. Once a sufficient amount of rain has accumulated on the ground the seeds inside the Seed Stone will begin to sprout. The clay around the Seed Stone prevents the seeds from drying out in the sun, getting eaten by small animals or blowing away. They can be stored for up to 3 years prior to planting if kept in a dry, cool place.

The earliest records of Seed Stones date back to the 1930's. Planes were actually used to distribute seeds over certain inaccessible mountains of Honolulu after devastating forest fires. Seed Stones are also widely used in Africa as they are tossed into barren or grassy areas to add color and life to an otherwise boring plot of land. There was even a project created in 1987 based on Seed Stones. A man named Lynn Garrison created the project and would scatter seeds from a specially modified aircraft over inaccessible parts of Haiti.

## Planting Instructions

1. Place germination disk in a separate container and add  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of lukewarm water.
2. The disk will hydrate and turn into germination mixture in about 10 minutes. After your germination disk is hydrated and mixed up, pour it into your biodegradable peat pot.
3. Smooth the surface of the germination mixture.
4. Gently place your Seed Stone on top of the germination mixture.
5. Water your Seed Stone until uniformly moist.
6. Place pot on windowsill or in a sunny location.
7. Your Seed Stone will sprout in 7 to 10 days.
8. Be sure to water them every 4 to 5 days.
9. Your growing Seed Stone can be transplanted into a larger pot or outside after they are well established and all fear of frost has passed. Plant the whole pot directly in the soil, it is biodegradable.

## Seed Stone Experiments

### 1. Water Test

Submerge a Seed Stone in a full cup of water.

Observe the Seed Stone for several minutes. What happens? Stir with a spoon. What happens?

### 2. Planting Method

**Group 1:** Completely bury a Seed Stone under the soil and water. Keep in a bright windowsill and wait 7 to 10 days. Did the Seed Stone sprout? Hypothesize with your group the possible reasons why the Seed Stone would or would not sprout?

**Group 2:** Place your Seed Stone on top of the soil and water. Place in a windowsill and wait 7 to 10 days. What happened?

Which method of planting was more successful? Come up with a few reasons this why.

### 3. Identifying Seed Stone

Plant and water a Seed Stone as directed in the instructions and wait 7 to 10 days until sprouts are visible. With your group write down characteristics of each Seed Stone and try and identify which one is which. Work with your group using your sight, touch and smell to determine an answer.

### 4. Toothpicks

With 2 toothpicks or paperclips, carefully puncture two sides of the Seed Stone creating a straight line. Fill a cup with just enough water that the bottom of your Seed Stone once resting on the lip of your cup just touches the water. Wait 7 to 10 days. Did your Seed Stone sprout? With your group, brainstorm possible reasons for this outcome.

### 5. Food Coloring

Place Seed Stone on top of soil. In a small cup of water, add a couple drops of food coloring. Water Seed Stone with colored water. Place in a sunny window and wait 7 to 10 days. What happened? Did your plants change colors? Discuss in a group the possible reasons for this.

## Company Information

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