

Read the science article. Then answer the questions that follow.

Making an Indoor Garden

by Rashida Darcy

1 If you look closely at the word “terrarium,” you can see the word part “terra” at the beginning. “Terra” means “earth.” So what’s a terrarium? It’s a container of soil that plants can live in.

2 Terrariums come in all shapes and sizes. They can be as big as a table and reach the ceiling. Or they can be as small as a fishbowl and fit on a shelf.

3 A terrarium is a piece of nature. You can keep it in your kitchen or bedroom. Like a garden, it can include rocks and sticks. Even frogs or snakes may live inside.

4 You can build your own terrarium with help from an adult. Here’s one way to do it.

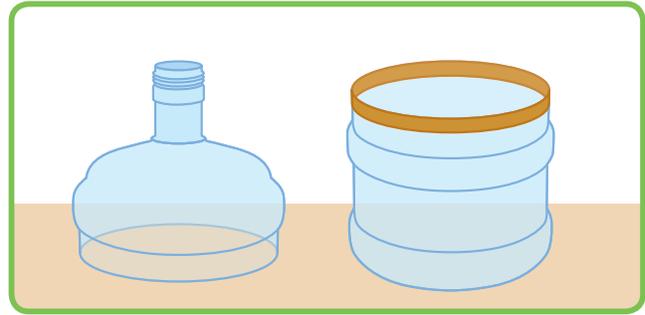
You will need:

- a clean, empty 1-gallon water jug
- tape
- pebbles
- soil
- 2 plants



Do This

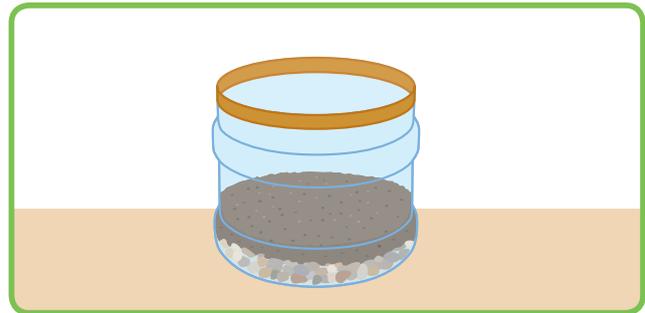
1. Have an adult help you carefully cut off the top of the water jug. The edge will be sharp, so cover it up with tape.



2. Next, put some pebbles on the bottom of the container.



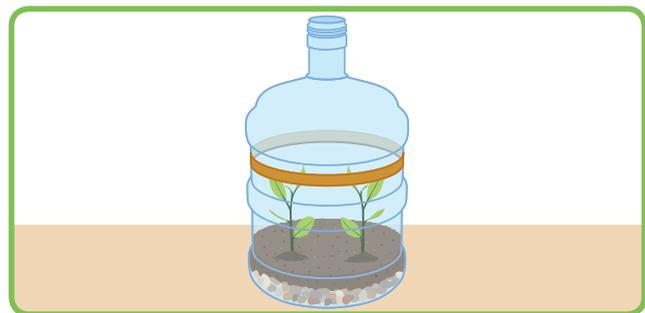
3. Cover the pebbles with about two inches of soil.



4. Dig two small holes in the soil.



5. Put one plant in each hole. Then shape the soil so it holds the plant in place.



6. Put the top back on.



Terrariums are a fun way to grow a garden inside your home.

5 You've just made a terrarium! But now you need to take care of it. If you don't care for the plants, they will die in a few days. Plants need soil to live, but soil isn't enough. They also need air, light, and water.

6 So put the terrarium in a place that gets sunshine. Leave the top of the terrarium open so the plants get air. Give them a little water every day.

7 Before long, you'll probably notice that your plants are growing . . . and growing . . . and growing some more. You're growing a garden!

 **Think**

- 1** This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then answer Part B.

Part A

What is the main topic of this article?

- A** how to build a terrarium
- B** what plants need to live
- C** which plants grow indoors
- D** why people have gardens

Part B

Write **one** sentence from the article that helped you answer the question in Part A.

- 2** How does the picture that goes with step 3 help you understand what to do?

- A** It shows how to dig holes in the soil.
- B** It shows how much soil to put in the jug.
- C** It shows how to cut the top off the jug.
- D** It shows how to shape the soil to hold the plants.

- 3** Put the steps for making a terrarium in the order you should do them.
Write the numbers 1 to 4 on the line before each sentence.

- _____ Dig two small holes in the soil.
- _____ Put some pebbles on the bottom of the container.
- _____ Cut off the top of the water jug.
- _____ Cover the pebbles with two inches of soil.

4 Why should you leave the top of the terrarium open?

- A to let in sunshine
- B to let in air
- C to let in rain
- D to let in frogs

5 What is paragraph 6 **mostly** about?

- A what kinds of plants to put in a terrarium
- B when to water plants in a terrarium
- C how to take care of plants in a terrarium
- D why plants need soil and water to live

6 Write a *what* question about this article. Then give information from the article that answers the question.

Your question:

Information from the article that answers your question:

Read the history article. Then answer the questions that follow.

Owney

The Dog Who Rode the Trains

by S. W. James

- 1 **O**ne night in 1888, a cold, black nose poked into the room. Then a scruffy brown dog with muddy paws and fur sticking out walked into the post office in Albany, New York.
- 2 The mail workers were too busy to see the brown dog. They sorted the mail and put it in big bags. Later, those mailbags would be put on trains and taken to other places.
- 3 The brown dog sniffed at the mailbags. He wagged his scruffy tail. Then he curled up on a bag and fell asleep.
- 4 All the mail workers liked the dog. Soon, they named him Owney. They fed him and played with him. Best of all, they let Owney ride on the wagons with the mailbags. Owney made the Albany post office his home.
- 5 One day, Owney hopped onto a train with the mailbags. Owney went for a ride. And he loved it! After that, Owney rode trains all over the United States. He went to Canada and Mexico, too. Once, Owney even traveled around the world! But Owney always came home.
- 6 At each stop, Owney made new friends. Owney became famous! His new friends gave Owney special tags. The tags told everyone where Owney had visited. Owney's tags jingled as he walked.
- 7 Today, you can see Owney and his tags in a museum. The post office made a stamp with his picture on it. Now, like Owney, his picture travels with the mail!



Owney with his special tags

 **Think**

- 7** What is paragraph 5 **mostly** about?
- A** how Owney got his name
 - B** why Owney always came back home
 - C** when Owney first came to the post office
 - D** where Owney traveled
- 8** Which question can be answered by reading paragraph 7?
- A** When did Owney first go into a post office?
 - B** What places did Owney visit?
 - C** Why did Owney like to travel on trains?
 - D** Where can you see Owney's tags today?
- 9** This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then answer Part B.

Part A

Read the sentence from the article.

Then a scruffy brown dog with muddy paws and fur sticking out walked into the post office in Albany, New York.

Based on clues in the text, what does the word "scruffy" mean?

- A** messy
- B** scary
- C** large
- D** friendly

Part B

Circle words in the sentence in Part A that help you figure out what "scruffy" means.

- 10** Write a *how* question about this article. Then give information from the article that answers the question.

Your question:

Information from the article that answers your question:

- 11** This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then answer Part B.

Part A

Why did the post office put Owney's picture on a stamp?

- A** Owney traveled to many places with the mail.
- B** Owney liked to sleep on mailbags.
- C** Owney was owned by a mail worker.
- D** Owney once hopped onto a train.

Part B

Underline the sentence in paragraph 7 that tells about the answer to Part A.

**Today, you can see Owney and his tags in a museum.
The post office made a stamp with his picture on it.
Now, like Owney, his picture travels with the mail!**



Write

Extended Response How did Owney become famous?

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Plan Your Response Fill in the chart with key details from the article that tell how Owney became a famous dog.

<p>How Owney Made a Post Office His Home</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>Why Owney Was Able to Travel All Over the United States</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>What Happened to Owney on His Trips</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

