

Don't throw away used tea bags. Grow seedlings in them instead!

I used to grow my seedlings in potting mix and plastic pots.



## Here's why:

- because they have been dunked in boiling water, tea bags are sterile. That means no bugs or diseases for your seedlings.
- tea bags are made of shredded, dried leaves. They contain plant food which will help your seedling grow.
- you can plant your seedlings straight into the garden without disturbing their roots. The tea bag will rot away.
- plastic pots are wasteful and cost money. Re-using old tea bags saves waste – and it's free!

## What you need

- 21 used tea bags
- paper towel
- small plastic tray
- water
- Seeds: try pansy, lettuce, broccoli or marigold

## What to do:

- 1 Fold the paper towel, put it in the tray and wet it.
- 2 Soak the used tea bags and pack them together like pillows in three rows on the paper towel.
- **3** Make a hole in each bag and poke in a seed.
- **4** Put the tray in a warm place out of the sun. Take care to keep the paper towel wet. It will keep the tea bags moist. This is VERY IMPORTANT.
- **5** When the seeds germinate and the seedlings are about 2 cm tall, plant them in their bags in the garden.



