

## Plant People

**Objective:** To show through creative arts an understanding of plant needs.

**Time:** 30 minutes.

**Materials:** Nylon stockings, grass seed, potting soil, soda can, plastic eyes, miscellaneous art supplies.

Ask the gardeners to recall what plants need. Ask them where plants grow. Point out that plants can grow in many places—in the ground, a pot and even a crack in the sidewalk. Tell them they will make plant people. Explain that plant people are growing, living things that will need to be cared for. Show the group all the materials. Demonstrate how to create one, then help the students make their own.

Pour 1 to 2 tablespoons of grass seed into the stocking toe (Note: If the section of stocking does not have a toe, tie a knot at one end and turn the stocking inside out. Each section of stocking should be about 10 inches long). Pour soil on top of the seeds and tie a knot to hold in the dirt. Add enough soil to form a baseball-sized shape.

The seeds will grow from the end to form the hair of the plant person. Glue eyes to the “head” of the person. Once the glue has dried, submerge the head in water to allow water to penetrate the soil.

Set the head aside. Use various art supplies to decorate an empty soda can to be the plant person’s body. It can be wrapped in a strip of construction paper. The gardeners can add paper or pipe cleaner arms and legs to complete the effect. Fill the decorated can with water and set the head on the can top. Push the excess stocking into the can opening to help wick water to the soil of the plant person.