

Terrarium Workshop: Program Outline

People love tiny gardens! This library program developed by Emilie Siertsema and Karissa Alcox costs less than \$40 for 20 people.

Materials needed:

- Mason Jars
- small rocks
- dry moss
- potting soil
- live moss
- Coffee stir sticks
- 2 plastic spoons
- Newspaper
- Plastic figurines
- Blue Glass Stones

Step-By-Step Instructions:

1. Add a thin layer of rocks to the bottom of your jar. If you'd like to create a small hill, pile rocks accordingly.
2. Take a thin layer of dried moss – no thicker than the height of your pinky finger nail. Pull and flatten it out to fit the base of your jar. The moss should be slightly moistened at this point. You can spray or dribble more water on the moss if needed to manipulate it better
3. The layer of dried moss acts as a filtration system for your terrarium – you don't want to see dirty water seeping down to the bottom of your jar. This layer acts as a barrier between the soil and the rocks.
4. Place the dried moss into the jar. Use your coffee stir stick to press the moss firmly on top of the layer of rocks. You want the moss to mold nicely into place.
5. Spoon a layer of potting soil on top of the dried moss. This layer can be as thick as you'd like. It's added here to give the live moss something to latch onto and survive off of. Some people like the look of a thin layer, others like a thick hilly layer. Just beware to leave a significant amount of air space for the live moss to grow.
6. Add your live moss. This is where things get really creative. You can mix and match different types of moss to create a unique terrain – some mosses look like ferns, some look like grass, some can even look like mini trees! Have fun with it. The cool thing is that these mosses might grow and sprout new tendrils as time passes. Try to cover the entire layer with moss.
7. Now add your figurines!

Tada! You're done!