

WORKSHOP EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Built by The Home Depot Kids Workshop

May 2022: Picket Fence Planter

Ages 5-12

CONNECT.

Have you ever heard of an *herb* before? Herbs are plants that have a unique quality... they smell! People can use herbs to give flavor and aroma to food. Herbs that you may have heard of include mint, basil, parsley, dill, and cilantro.

This Mother's Day, work with Mom (or another important adult at home) to grow some of your own herbs in your Picket Fence Planter!

INVESTIGATE.

First, decide where in your home you'll be placing your planter. Most herbs need either full sun or partial sun, so try to select a location that gets sun for at least part of the day!

Once you have a spot in mind, keep an eye on it. If the location gets 3-6 hours of sunlight each day, it has *partial sun*. If it gets more than 6 hours of sunlight, it has *full sun*.

Then it's time to pick your herbs! Since your planter has two pots, you can grow a different herb in each one.

Check out the herbs available on The Home Depot's website using tinyurl.com/herbseed or visit your local The Home Depot Garden Center. Look for herbs that require the amount of sunlight you can provide. Then consider the type of scent or flavor that you and Mom may most like to have in your kitchen and select two to grow.

Tip: If you're not sure which herbs to choose, think about some of your favorite family recipes. Chances are they use an herb or two!

INNOVATE.

You'll need:

- Your Picket Fence Planter
- The herb seeds you selected
- Garden soil
- Spray bottle
- Scissors

1. Fill each of the pots about three-quarters full with gardening soil.
2. Read your seed packets to learn how deep to plant your seeds, as well as how far apart they should be.
3. Place the seed(s) in the soil according to the packet's directions. You should be able to use your finger to make a small hole, and then you can cover the hole with soil.
4. When your planting is complete, use the spray bottle to moisten your soil. It should never be too wet or too dry!
5. Place your Picket Fence Planter in the location you selected. Then check on your soil at least a few times a week and use the spray bottle as needed.
6. In a couple weeks, you should see your herbs begin to sprout. Once your herbs have grown into strong plants, you can begin to trim them and use them as you cook!
7. Select a recipe with Mom that uses one or both of the herbs. When you are ready, use sharp and clean scissors to cut the stem (and not just the leaves). Then you can separate the leaves from the stem, and chop the herbs as directed in the recipe.



The same way that you will learn how to grow and care for herbs, a **landscaper's** goal is to create a beautiful environment with plants. A **landscaper** is responsible for growing and caring for the yards of homes or buildings by planting flowers and trees and removing weeds. They even create designs with plants!

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