

# *Up in the Garden, Down in the Dirt*

## inspired art project

### Supplies Needed

- 3-5 packages of flower seeds
- Construction paper (different colors)
- Food processor or blender
- Scissors
- Bowls (one for each color of paper)
- Water
- A tray or a sheet pan with parchment paper or wax paper



### Read the Story

*Up in the Garden, Down in the Dirt* by Kate Messner, with art by Christopher Silas Neal. Or, you can watch Miss Emily reading the story at Josephine Ford's Playhouse: <https://youtu.be/glAqz6wmQjQ>. As you read or listen, pay attention to what gardens need to grow. Look around for good places for your seed bombs! **Check out the Ford House website for a video showing step by step instructions for this project:** <https://youtu.be/7l9qMivzS34>

### Instructions

- \* Collect your supplies and set up a space to work. Be sure to lay some paper down to protect any surfaces that you don't want to get messy!
- \* Cut the construction paper into approximately 1-inch squares.
- \* Put the squares into the bowls. Be sure to keep each color in a separate bowl.
- \* Fill each bowl with water until the paper is covered with water. Let the paper soak for 20 minutes.
- \* After 20 minutes, take the paper from one of the bowls squares and squeeze out some, but not all of the water.
- \* Put the squares in the food processor or blender, and pulse until the paper turns into pulp. (Don't over overdo it!)
- \* Repeat this process for each color and put the pulp back into the respective bowls.
- \* Sprinkle some seeds into each bowl and mix the pulp and seeds together, with your hands.
- \* Once the seeds are mixed into the pulp, form the mixture into a ball. (If the pulp is too dry, it will be difficult to form into balls. So, keep some water handy, so you can mix some in, if needed.)
- \* Once your seed bomb is formed, place on the tray or sheet pan to dry overnight.
- \* Repeat the process with each color.
- \* In the morning, the seed bombs should be dry, and you will be ready to start your garden! (Take note of the directions on your seed packets to help you determine the best places to place your seed bombs.)

