

☀️ care guide

1. living things need light!

Start off by placing it where it gets light every day. Do not place in direct sunlight or the jar may get too hot. Indirect sunlight by a window is best. Keep in mind plants need to sleep too! At night, darkness is needed. If you're getting a lot of algae, then it has too much light.

2. the food is already there.

The plants do not need extra nutrients other than soil. If you have a snail, you may add a small pinch of fish food every week or just drop a dry oak leaf inside. If there is algae or dead leaves from your plants, no food is required. Snails will eat algae and decaying plants to convert it into plant nutrients! (Snail poop helps plants grow!)

3. overgrown plants?

If you did well to care for it, you will find that the plants will grow to the top of the jar! Simply trim off the extra leaves and stems. If you cut the plants at the stem, you can re-plant them into the jar, or start a new one!

4. you're allowed to open it

Open the jar to inspect or play with it. You may also leave it slightly open for air to get in, but look out for leaves drying out.

😊 fun facts

- The plants in this kit can grow under water (submerged) or above water (emersed). You may fill the water up to 75% of the container. Leaving some air inside of the jar will help provide more oxygen and carbon dioxide, which the plants need to survive.
- Aquatic snails only eat decaying matter and algae. This means they will leave healthy plants alone, but will eat leaves that start to rot and convert it into nutrients for the plant. In addition, aquatic snails actually live under water. If you have an aquatic snail in the terrarium, always make sure to have enough water inside!



BUILD YOUR OWN AQUATIC TERRARIUM

A simple step-by-step guide to building your very own living biome in a jar!

PLANTS IN A JAR!

Many varieties available.
Contact us for details!



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✂️ tools you'll need

- Spray bottle with water
- Tweezers or chopsticks

📦 materials

- Sealable glass jar
- Plain garden soil
- Pool filter sand
- Lava rock

🌸 plants & critters

Moneywort
(*Bacopa monnieri*)



Dwarf pennywort
(*Hydrocotyle tripartita*)



Japanese cress
(*Cardamine lyrata*)



Monte carlo
(*Micranthemum tweediei*)



Java fern
(*Microsorium pteropus*)



Aquatic Snail



📋 let's get started!

1. Place soil in the jar, up to a maximum of 1 inch high.
2. Press the soil lightly to remove large air holes.
3. Spray the soil with water until damp and air bubbles are out.
4. Place sand over the soil and make sure the soil is covered.
5. Spray the sand lightly with water if it looks dry.
6. Place the lava rock on the sand.
7. Using tweezers, poke the stem plants (except the Java fern) into the soil layer. Try not to move the soil up to the top.
8. Place the Java fern on top of the lava rock, or next to it. The "rhizome" of the Java fern is the green horizontal stem, and must not be buried.
9. Spray plants lightly with more water to moisten the leaves.
10. Slowly fill the jar with water up to 1-2 inches above the sand. If you're transporting the jar, you can skip this step and do it later.
11. Drop an aquatic snail inside.
12. Wipe the inside of the glass.
13. Close the jar.
14. Enjoy your new terrarium!

💡 building tips

- If the soil is over 1 inch thick, it may become anaerobic. This means bad bacteria that doesn't need oxygen will start growing and the jar will be smelly.
- The soil does not need to be flat. Create your own landscape!
- Try not to move the soil too much when planting. You'll end up with a mess.
- When finished building, don't shake the jar!

✓ how does it look?

The terrarium should look something like the picture below. You'll have to wait for the plants to grow and fill in the rest of the jar!

